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*Country*

GUIDE

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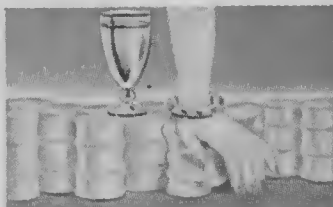
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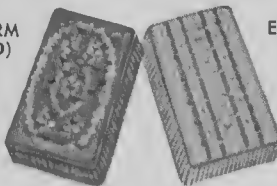
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[Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts.]

## THE *Country* GUIDE

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# all'round shooting



Stevens 58-AC  
Model 58

Bolt Action  
Repeating Shotgun

12-16 ga. 3-shot

WITH  
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- Instant, Finger-twist Choke Selection from Full Through Cylinder.
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**Stevens Model 58** — Same as Model 58-AC but without Savage Adjustable Choke. 12, 16 Gauge; 26 inch full choke barrel.

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Here's the most versatile gun you can own. Use it for flying shots — running shots — long shots or short shots. Use the "22" barrel for plinking or small furred game — the .410 shotgun barrel for birds, pests or targets.



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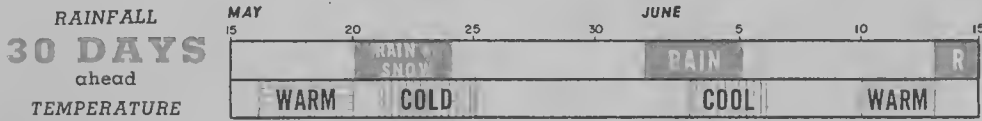
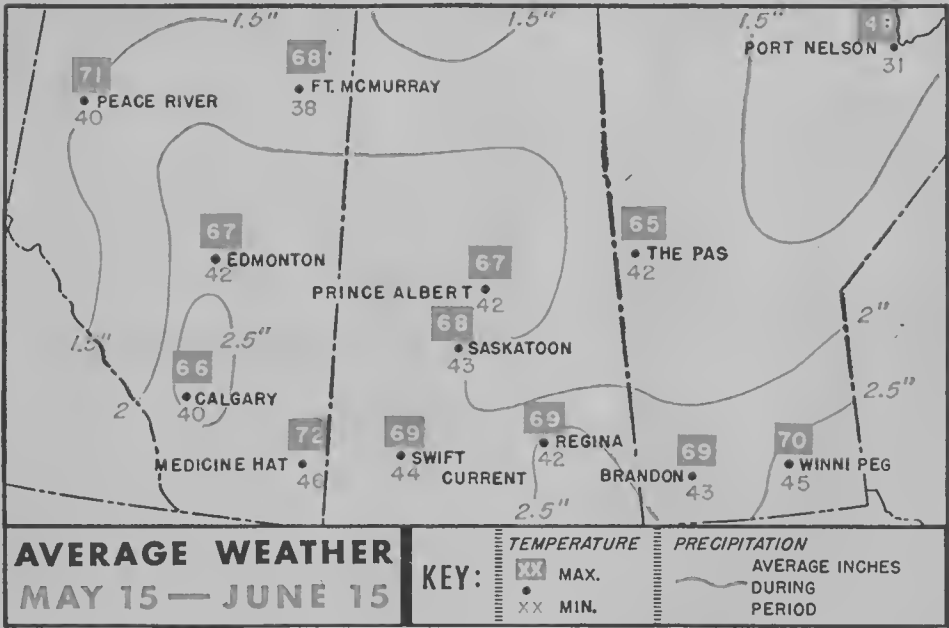


# Prairie Weather

Prepared by DR. IRVING P. KRICK and Staff  
for

THE *Country*  
GUIDE

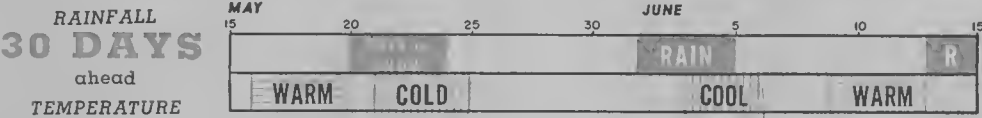
(Allow a day or two either way in using this forecast. It should be 75 per cent right for your area, but not necessarily for your farm.—ed.)



## Alberta

Last year, the general trend of temperatures during the mid-May to mid-June period was characterized by a rise from slightly-below-average readings early in the interval, to well above normal during the second week of June. A somewhat different trend appears to be in prospect for this year, however, with the first half of June likely to be of at least equal importance for the occurrence of low temperatures. Below average temperatures will be recorded for the 30-day

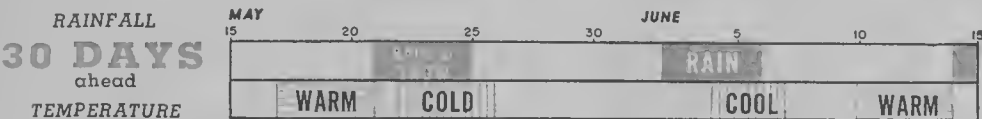
period. Significant precipitation amounts were limited to southern Alberta in 1953, as the principal storm activity was located to the south of the province during much of the period. A gradual shift northward in June brought generally above-normal rains. More favorable conditions are anticipated during 1954, with wet weather in prospect for central and southern Alberta. Thus, the outlook of cool and wet weather should assist in replenishing soil moisture reserves and generally meet the demands for satisfactory wheat and pasture growth. ✓



## Saskatchewan

With the exception of the second week in June, the Saskatchewan area experienced below-average temperatures during the May 15 to June 15 period of 1953. Precipitation amounts, however, varied considerably over the province, with deficiencies being recorded in the northern portion, and excesses in the south. For the next 30 days, below average temperature readings again are expected. Two important cold spells, one around May 23 and the other around June 4, are

anticipated. Rainfall totals are expected to be above normal in the Saskatchewan farming sections, resulting from the three major storm developments that are in prospect. Soil moisture supplies should be adequate for sustaining good growth; and, as in Alberta, the cool and wet weather should be favorable for spring-sown grains. Around May 16 to 20 and again at the end of the period, warm conditions are expected to prevail. The open character of the weather during these intervals will prove to be satisfactory for outdoor activities. ✓



## Manitoba

With the weather of late May and early June, 1953, being subject to frequent storminess, the southern areas of Manitoba experienced wetter than usual conditions. At Brandon, for example, a new June rainfall record was set. Temperatures during most of this period remained below the long-term average, and it was not until the second week in June that warmer weather was observed. For 1954, Manitoba may expect similar conditions to prevail. Current prospects

point favorably to wetter than usual weather, with significant precipitation amounts in excess of one-half to three-quarters of an inch occurring during the indicated storm intervals. Temperatures for the period will average near, or slightly below, normal. Many of the varied agricultural activities of southern Manitoba will be retarded somewhat by the cool, wet weather. Livestock and dairy interests may anticipate favorable range and pasture conditions. Grain growers in the southwest should expect sufficient soil moisture to maintain good growth. ✓



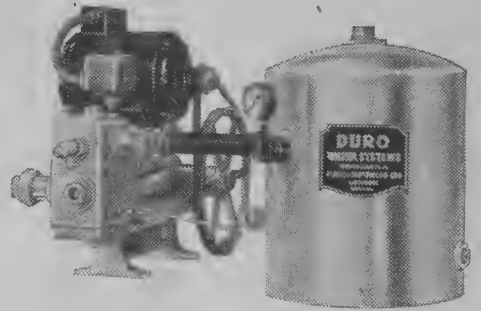
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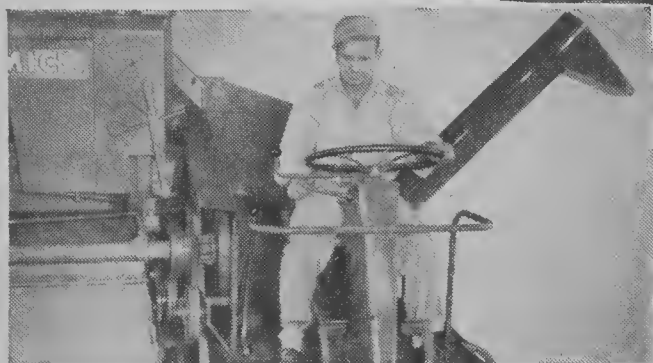
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money's worth  
in self-propelled  
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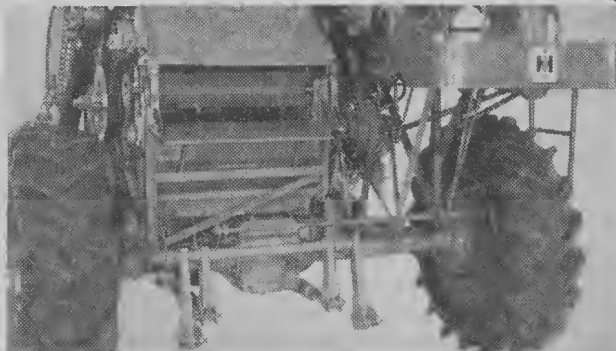
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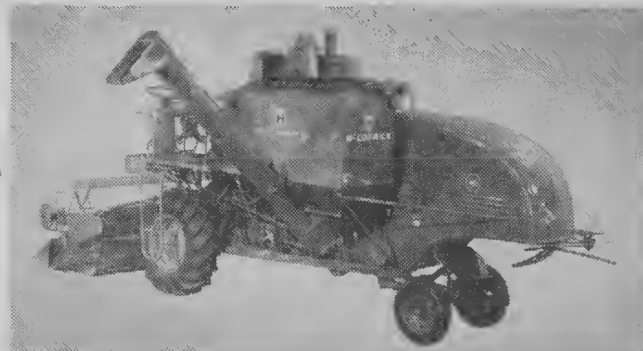
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Notice its new, low silhouette and narrower tread for greater stability, easier storage and transport. Check the new grain tank leveling auger. Try the new automotive-type steering that permits fast, tight turns. Also, note the extensive use of sealed bearings throughout for peak performance over a longer period of time.

**More power . . . greater capacity . . . easier handling . . . quicker adjustments for faster grain-saving harvests!** Compare the new McCormick No. 141. Check its many new features that give you better performance, greater dependability, easier handling and lower maintenance costs. Add the unmatched benefits of McCormick cutting, feeding, threshing, separating and cleaning with a 10, 12, or 14-foot cutting platform or pickup attachment. Yes, compare the McCormick No. 141 with any self-propelled combine on the market and you'll see why it is rated first.

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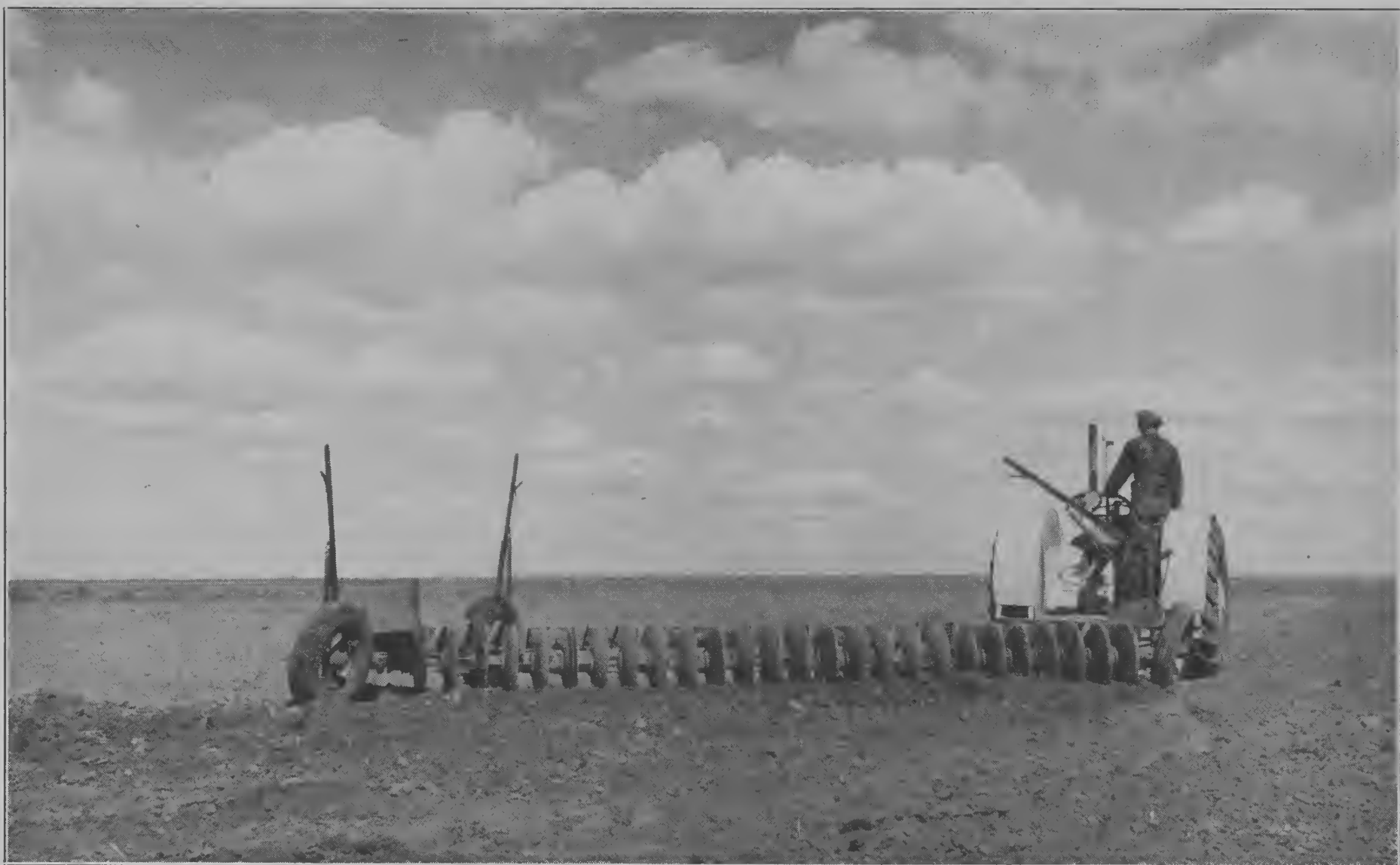
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# INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER

International Harvester Company of Canada, Limited, Hamilton, Ontario





*The growth of wheat production has been paralleled by an increase in size and efficiency of farm implements.*

# Can We Grow Wheat Forever?

**M**ANY fields in western Canada have never grown any crop except wheat. The great majority have grown nothing but wheat, oats or barley since they were broken 50 or 60 years ago. Thoughtful farmers are beginning to ask whether the same fields can keep on producing cereal crops, or if the soil will shortly prove to be "worn out," and will produce steadily smaller yields.

Crops harvested by the farmers of the prairie provinces in the last two years suggest that the fields are far from worn out. Experimental evidence confirms this, and suggests that there is fertility enough in many of our prairie soils to grow crops, and also, that if erosion and weed problems are successfully dealt with, a wheat and summerfallow rotation can be followed for many more years in many areas.

In 1881 production of wheat in the prairie provinces was about a million bushels. By 1901, it had reached 23 million bushels, and, in 1952, exceeded 600 million bushels of wheat and included correspondingly large yields of other cereal crops. These figures suggest that the large-scale production of wheat on the prairies dates back about 50 years, and that the fields have not lost their ability to produce crops over this interval of time.

Soon after wheat growing became general, experiments were started at three prairie experimental stations to determine the influence on soil fertility of continuous cereal crops, and continuous cereal crops and summerfallow. The three stations were located at Brandon, Manitoba; Indian Head, Saskatchewan; and Lethbridge, Alberta. It was recognized early in the agricultural history of the prairie provinces, that the southern Brown and Dark Brown Soil Zones served by these stations, would always have to contend with the problem of limited moisture. They would, therefore, probably grow cereal crops for many years with summerfallow every second, third or fourth year.

The work done over the past 40 years on these three stations should be reassuring to disturbed farmers. Yield results, and fertility and production trends on the grain and fallow rotations do not

*Farmers and investigators agree that careful producers on fertile prairie soils should be able to continue to grow wheat for a long time*

by RALPH HEDLIN

indicate any serious depletion of soil fertility. Studies of the chemical composition of the soil at the Lethbridge experimental station show changes, but these are having no serious effect on the successful continuation of the basic wheat-summerfallow rotations.

Lethbridge, with a lower rainfall than either of the other two stations, has an annual average precipitation of 16 inches. The soil on which the experiments were conducted is a friable, highly fertile, Chestnut loam.

The work was begun in 1912. The land used was broken out of native sod in 1908, and at the time the experimental rotations were started, had grown only two crops of wheat.

Six crop sequences were chosen. The grain rotations selected include continuous wheat, a two-year rotation of alternate wheat and summerfallow, and a three-year rotation of wheat-wheat-summerfallow. The remaining three were mixed farm rotations. They included a six-year rotation—fallow, wheat, oats, fallow (manured), peas and oats for hay, wheat; a nine-year rotation—fallow (manured), corn for silage, winter rye, fallow, wheat, wheat, fallow, peas and oats for hay, wheat; and a ten-year rotation—fallow (manured), winter wheat, oats, alfalfa seeded without a nurse crop, alfalfa seed (three seasons), fallow, corn for silage, wheat.

**T**HE scientists setting up the experiments recognized that the longer mixed-farm rotations would likely be of less practical use than the grain rotations, due to limited moisture. They were included to compare their long-term effect on yield and fertility with the effect of grain rotations.

Almost 40 years of continuous wheat (1912-50) caused a very small downward trend in yield, so small as to have little practical importance. In spite of four dry years, in which no crop was harvested, the average yield was 12.2 bushels, an average long-term production that left some profit.

The alternate wheat and fallow rotation and the three-year fallow, fallow, wheat showed a slight increase in yield over the long period of the test. Although the increase was so small as to be of little importance, it might well be considered surprising that there was any increase at all. Both rotations produced an identical yield of 13.6 bushels per cultivated acre—1.4 bushels more than the field of continuous wheat.

The average yields of the grain rotations during the ten-year period 1941-50, were close to the long-term average. This gives further support to the indication that production in fields cropped for many years did not fall; the same thing was observed in the average over the entire term.

There was very little difference in yields of grain on summerfallow fields in the longer term, mixed-farm rotations. However, as was expected, the forage crops were of lower value than the grain crops, and these rotations were less profitable than the grain-fallow rotations.

In addition to observing the changes in crop yields, the Lethbridge investigators set up their experiments in a way that permitted them to define changes in the soil. At the time the main rotations were begun, small plots were laid out on similar soil nearby, and the same rotations used on the small plots. Soil samples were periodically taken from these plots.

It was found that the percentage of nitrogen in the soil declined consistently. The loss was not serious, averaging only 24 per cent for all six rotations. The smallest nitrogen loss took place in the ten-year rotation, which included three years of alfalfa. The highest losses were in the nine-year rotation (which included three years of summerfallow and an inter-tilled crop), and in the two and three-year grain rotations. (Please turn to page 54)



# Reward of the Stalk

*"Rastlin' yer own gun is part o' huntin', part o' bein' a man," Grantha had said. The gun Bright wanted hung on the rack in the south window in Tarbell's store. But he had planned and worked so that it would be his, tomorrow, when the deer season opened*

by CARL D. LANE

He took down the little gun and laid it on the frozen ground. From under a pile of balsam boughs, he drew a weathered store crate. There were things in the crate; a box of the now-scarce long rifles, a crow call, two muskrat traps, and a page torn from a gun catalogue. Over this page, Bright lingered, studying it with eager, shining eyes.

It showed in full color, a Dexter .32 special. A man couldn't hope to own a better gun than a Dexter. It was a beautiful weapon for deer—short, like a carbine for easy brush shooting, with a fool-proof lever action and a burlled walnut stock and a genuine Ezra McKimber barrel. Tomorrow he would shoot that gun.

It was not new. Mr. Tarbell had no new guns to sell since the war. But use never hurt a Dexter. It stood in the gun rack in the south window of Tarbell's store in Brandon, looking smooth and comfortable, as if the man who had owned it had loved it, as if with its purchase there came a trust, a tradition to live up to. Its blemishes, the worn spot on the stock where cold-toughened whiskers had rubbed, the two scratches on the bluing of the receiver were marks of honor to Bright. The price was forty dollars.

"Her owner's a soldier now," Mr. Tarbell had nodded gravely. "Forty's a bargain. But now we got the price settled, Albright, how you figure to pay me?"

"Well," said Bright, crossing his fingers in his jacket pocket and making toe circles on the floor, "you let me, I'd like to pay in muskrat skins."

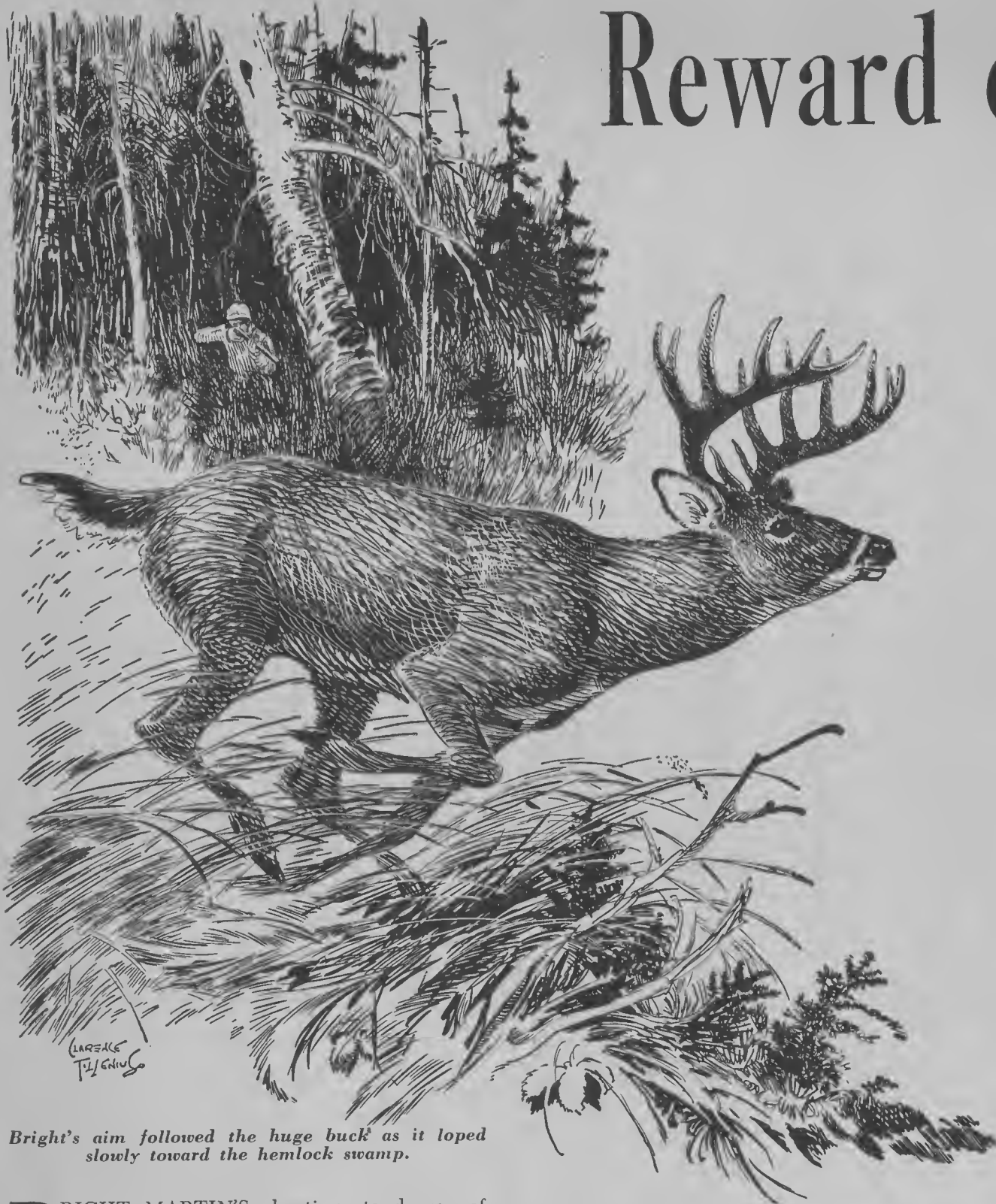
"Dunno why not, boy." Mr. Tarbell spoke from behind his littered counter. "I trade regular in 'em. But they got to be prime."

"You won't have any trouble with my pelts, Mr. Tarbell. Grantha taught me to dress and cure when I was only a—kid."

The storekeeper grinned. "Well, thirty prime A-one skins'll pay for the gun. An' you better get your traps set quick. John Coreau an' the market hunters has hired nigh every good rat meadow on the Otter."

"I got a meadow," Bright said. "Can I have the catalogue page—to kind of look at until I fetch the pelts?"

He folded the gun picture now and put it back into the crate. The last eight rat pelts were drying in the wire stretchers (Please turn to page 57)



Bright's aim followed the huge buck as it loped slowly toward the hemlock swamp.

BRIGHT MARTIN'S shooting stand was of logs and spruce boughs. It overlooked the deer run which traversed that dense swale in the shadow of the Green Mountains where the Mint Slang leaves Otter Creek to become the marshy lagoons at the Great Hemlock Swamp. Bright lay behind it now, waiting for his buck.

It was mid-November. There was frost in the dawn. It glistened on the pines and naked alder and on the steel barrel and breech of Bright's rifle.

Bright loved that rifle. It was a cheap, battered .22-calibre, a boy's gun, but it was the only one which Bright had ever known. He couldn't begin to count the number of kills he had made with it.

Oddly now, waiting prone behind the loophole in the sweet-smelling evergreen screen, he remembered again Grantha Martin's challenge which had sent him to this remote spot in the deep woods.

"Varmints an' small fur is all right," the old man had said, rubbing his terribly crippling knee ache and trying to keep his eyes off the ten-point deer head which hung in the big farm kitchen. "You done handsome on 'em. But yer gettin' sizable now, Bright—nigh onto bein' a man. I killed him," he jerked his cob pipe at the trophy, "when I was your age exact. Ain't it time you hunted a man's game, Bright?"

"Yes, sir," Bright had answered eagerly. "I wanted you to say that for a long time, Grantha. I—I got a deer rifle spotted."

"Well, I said it." Grantha had nodded from his rocker, his mild eyes proud. "Rastlin' yer own gun is part o' huntin', part o' bein' a man."

That had been in August, in hot summer, when nobody but a boy of 15 would begin counting the days to the deer season.

A pair of grey squirrels suddenly left off their dashing forays for butternuts and scampered, scold-

ing, into the windfalls. Bright, scarcely breathing, reckoned he knew for what the forest waited.

He raised the gun, holding it upon the faint wood path which he knew so well. He squinted along the barrel; not daring to move. You didn't shoot at sound or vague movement. You waited, stilling your eagerness, until you saw your game plainly; then picked your shot. Bright knew that almost by instinct. Hunting and guns were in his blood, as they were in his father's and Grantha's, just as skiing or baseball was in the blood of his schoolmates.

He saw the deer then, a proud giant buck. It was his. He had found the secret runway months ago, built the stand from behind which he had watched so many times since, planning and dreaming.

THE nicked gunsight found the heart, low in the forebelly, behind the front shoulder. He counted the spikes again. There were 14; four better than Grantha's head, and Grantha was the greatest hunter Bright knew—or he had been before, he became so crippled. Bright's aim was steady, sure, following the huge buck as it loped along the run from the orchard country to its daytime bed in the security of the hemlock swamp.

Gently, then, Bright let the hammer down and drew in the gun. The buck passed on, tail flag down, showing no suspicion.

"Tomorrow," Bright whispered, "the season will be open. I'll have my deer gun . . . tomorrow."

Illustrated by Clarence Tillenius



There would be trouble if John Coreau found out about his taking those muskrats.





Brangus bulls are polled, humpless, loose-skinned and rangy . . .

. . . Taking their heat and insect-resistant qualities from the humped Brahman.

# Have You Heard about Brangus?

*'A tough, hot-weather combination of Brahman and Aberdeen-Angus, they are not yet "purebreds" in the generally accepted sense, but they are on their way*

by GILBERT HILL

**B**IG, thrifty, black calves "sell good" on the feeder markets. They even bring premium prices, when prices already are "too high."

Then, when the calves come back as fat cattle, feeders prove they didn't make a mistake. Packers grab them, still at the best prices of the day.

Neither the range producer of feeders, nor the man who finishes them in the corn belt, nor the packer, cares a whoop about the "breeding" of those calves. They're in the meat producing business.

So when they strike a string of "good doers" they're off, like hound dogs on a trail, to find the ranch that produced them, to assure themselves of more!

That's the reason there is a constant stream of quiet men, all asking questions, dropping into a tiny office at Vinita, Okla., marked by a little sign above the door, "American Brangus Breeders Association." Some wear boots and hats. Some wear overalls and fleece-lined coats. Some look like bankers with bronze faces.

They drive late model cars from Eastern Canada to the Rockies, from Ohio to Florida, from Nebraska to Texas. From the minute they start talking, it's evident they know cows. But they're in the business to produce meat—not show prizes.

They find a small, wiry, tightly-wound, bronze-faced guy in that office—occasionally, at least—who is the best qualified man in America to talk about Brangus cattle. He is Raymond Pope, former president of the Brangus Association, and generally recognized among cowmen as "Mr. Brangus" himself, although still well under middle age.

He denies, flatly, however, that the idea of crossing the ancient Zebu blood of India—it's Brahman only in America—with the fine beef-producing Aberdeen-Angus from Scotland, originated with him. He saw it first being done at a USDA experiment station in Louisiana.



Two-year-old Brangus heifers about to calve, and in good flesh after wintering on open range.

"But it did look like a natural to me, the first cross I'd seen using Brahma blood, that did everything I wanted," said Pope. "I felt it should be developed."

"But I felt from the first that we would have to set standards, stick with them, and begin with the best stock that could be had at any price. We've done that with Brangus—and I believe that's the reason we're being accepted so rapidly. It's a good idea, based on good stock."

What's the matter with standard beef breeds now in this country? "They're fine — for England" — says Pope, "where farms are small, feed plentiful, and the climate generally mild, neither too hot nor too cold. But in a place like Oklahoma, which ranges from bitter Arctic cold, far below zero, to temperatures above 100, where grass is short and sometimes scarce, we ought to have something better—and if it'll grow here, it should fit a lot of different places in the world."

**P**OPE grew up with that idea on a ranch near Coalgate, in southeast Oklahoma. It went with him to Oklahoma A. & M. College, where he graduated in genetics, —then on down to a ranch in Louisiana, owned by Frank Buttram, Oklahoma City oil man, and Virgil Browne, Oklahoma City soft drink bottler. It was a land of heat and humidity, flies, mosquitoes, and sundry other insects, and lush-appearing pastures without much food value.

They tried everything there, from purebred Brahman to all English



Brangus heifers in range condition in February, with the first calf born.

breeds, including grades and crosses of almost every description. They even tried some of the famous Santa Gertrudis, the King Ranch's new breed, created from Brahman and Shorthorn, which does so well on the southern plains of Texas.

They had just started with Brahman-Angus, when the two Oklahoma City men gave up, sold out, and ended their partnership. But Pope still wanted to try out his new idea, and Buttram was curious. So, these two formed a new partnership and bought Clear Creek Ranch, northwest of Vinita, very near the Kansas line.

It was here that the word "Brangus" was coined, only about ten years ago. Only five years ago, breeders agreed they finally had a "real breed," that could reproduce itself, with no more variation than in the older breeds, like

the occasional "red neck" in Herefords, or brown color in Angus.

In 1949, at Vinita, the Brangus Association was formed, with 54 breeders. Today there are more than 300, with 2,000 registered, purebred "Brangus," about 10,500 more as "basic stock," accepted by the Association, in 16 states, Canada, Costa Rica, Mexico, Australia, Paraguay and Venezuela, and with membership growing by the minute.

There was enough competition between herds to hold the first breeding-class show in history, at San Antonio, three years ago.

Strangely, breeders of Brangus have come up with the same "ideal" blood percentage as King Ranch experts in their cross, the Santa Gertrudis. The Brangus Association will register as "purebred" only animals that have

(Please turn to page 50)





7. HERE was an air of general alarm. From her nest in the grey stubble, the little spoonbill duck felt it, recognized it as a danger to the eight eggs beneath her.

So far the cause of it was down at the other end of the field. Crows were rising, wheeling about, settling again with harsh cries. There were horses. But horses were not dangerous, unless a huge foot came directly down on the nest.

These horses though, were not acting in a normal manner. They were not wandering about cropping the grass. They were marching, several of them abreast. The duck could hear a man's voice. As the horses drew nearer, she could see that something was following behind. On the thing sat a man, a floppy hat on his head to protect his eyes from the June sun.

The duck was worried. This had seemed such a safe place to build a nest. The tall, last year stubble blended so well with her brown feathers. Once, it had fooled a coyote. The gaunt creature had stopped to sniff at mice runs only yards away. She had sat so still, so like a clump of dirt, the coyote hadn't seen her.

But this was more frightening than the coyote. She shifted a trifle on her nest, gazed down the field with her sharp little eyes.

As the outfit—that's what it was—passed fifty yards to the west of the spoonbill, a black ribbon stretched out behind it. The duck stirred uneasily. She had a dim memory of another year, a year when she hadn't taken any ducklings down to the water. There had been horses that other time. Horses, and a man, and crows wheeling noisily about.

Instinctively, she knew. The farmer was plowing his field and the crows were following behind, picking up insects — or eggs.

A pair of frightened Hungarian partridges flew low and swiftly past the spoonbill. Their nest was already in danger. The trampling of the horses, the general excitement, had startled the hen off her eggs. When the horses had reached the far end of the field and the uproar had died down, the two Huns returned.

The hubbub continued all afternoon. Then there was silence. The farmer had unhitched and gone home, the crows had departed.

The spoonbill waited until deep dusk. Then she got off her nest and flew straight away. She wasn't leaving any tracks for a skunk, or a weasel, to find and follow. It was only a two-hundred-yard flight to the rush-rimmed slough.

She stayed there long enough to allow the eggs to cool a trifle. When she rose from the water, she did it carefully. She was trying to keep some of the moisture on her feathers. The shells of the eggs needed that moisture to keep them from being so hard that a duckling could not chip them. When she arrived at the nest, she turned each egg over with her odd-shaped bill. That done, she settled for the night.

NEXT day, the farmer and his horses were closer —much closer. New land had been broken out and the duck could hear the man more clearly now, as he talked. She could hear the plow rattling and squeaking. The din of the crows was louder also. At times, there would be crows only yards away. The duck remained motionless. Just before noon, the two Hungarians trailed away from their smashed nest. They walked through the tall stubble, passing within feet of the duck, making small, plaintive sounds of mourning to each other. Later they returned, to perch on the blackened earth above where their nest had been.

By mid-afternoon, the duck could feel the earth

The din of the crows was louder now also.



# THE PLOWING

*Neither the thunder of heavy hoofs, nor the raucous noises of the robber crows could make the worried little spoonbill leave her nest*

by DELBERT A. YOUNG



tremble slightly from the solid tread of the draft horses each time they passed. She felt panic. But she refused to desert her eggs.

Suddenly, a crow landed a yard away. For a few seconds he and the duck gazed at each other.

"Caw! Caw! Caw!" the crow was opening its mouth and closing it, and bobbing its head in eagerness. A dozen others came quickly. They fluttered down, filled the air with their harsh scolding.

This was an old game which the black robbers enjoyed. They were confident this little brown duck

would be as stupid as the Hungarian partridge had been. The crows had found their nest. They had watched it, annoying the hen until the outfit came close. The bird had panicked, slipped off the nest. Immediately, the crows had pounced down, driving their ugly beaks into the eggs.

The plow on its next trip around had covered what was left, some bits of shell and mused grass and down. But no bird, certainly no other duck, has the courage of the spoonbill. This one continued to sit, refusing to stir an inch, even when the feet of the outside horse came within four feet of her.

Next time around, she would be under the big horse's feet.

They were coming now. The duck could feel the earth vibrate. The farmer was talking to the animals. The mountainous beasts towered straight ahead. The crows rose up, flew screaming away.

Suddenly, the man shouted. The outfit stopped. The duck was looking upward into the face of the nearest horse. The animal bowed his head, sneezed

loudly to clear the dust from his nostrils. The duck remained as still as if she were a brown decoy and not a living bird at all.

Again she heard footsteps. These footsteps were light. The farmer was coming up in front of his horses. He stopped, stood looking down at the duck for a long time. A couple of crows returned and lit close by. The man shook his fist at them. He gazed down upon the spoonbill again, appeared to be trying to decide something. Finally, he began to talk.

To the duck, his voice was not unpleasant. She found it strangely soft and reassuring. Then it was silent again. The man turned, walked back to his plow. He spoke to the horses. The earth shook once more.

It shook. The big horses came one step closer. Then they veered sharply

to the left. Big feet stomped by, a foot away from the tiny duck.

When they had passed and the jingle of trace chains was growing faint, an oblong of grey stubble surrounded the nest. On all sides of it was moist, black earth.

The crows came back. They cawed louder than ever. The odd one flew up and made short dives at the duck, coming within inches of her before they levelled out. The boldest came almost close enough to peck at her. He opened his ugly beak and screamed and screamed.

The duck sat unblinking, unmoved. Cowards, she knew them to be.

Finally, the farmer quit for the night. The sun went down. The crows left and all was quiet.

It was dark now. The spoonbill hadn't made her trip down to the slough (Please turn to page 48)

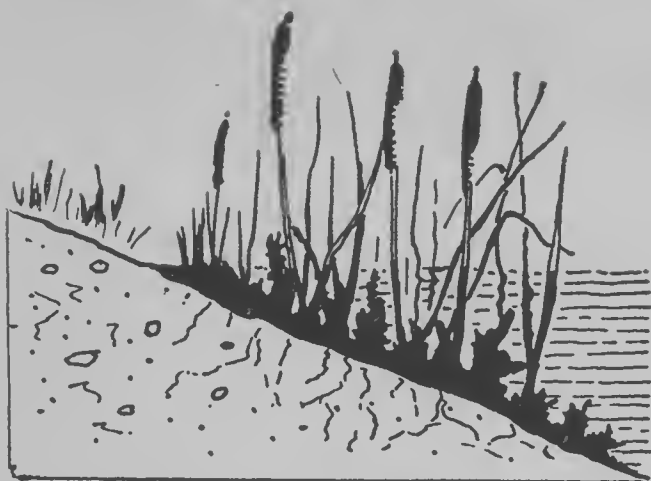
Illustrated by Clarence Tillenius



# A Pond for Fun and Profit

*You can grow 300 pounds of edible fish per year from an acre pond*

by ARTHUR D. STAUBITZ



To prevent weed growth along the water edge . . .

**M**ORE and more Canadian farmers are constructing ponds, by scooping out low-lying, poorly drained fields, or by damming gulches. In this way they handle the problem of water storage for their livestock, and give themselves fire protection. As a bonus, the farm pond provides skating, boating, swimming—and very profitable fishing.

Ponds larger than a quarter-acre can produce a surprising quantity of king-sized largemouth bass and bluegills. With proper stocking and maintenance, a one-acre pond will yield at least 300 pounds of edible fish each year. This compares favorably with many pasture areas, which produce 225 pounds of edible beef per acre annually.

Even a large family can get regular meals of delicious eating, from such a pond, all year round. Bluegills are easily caught through holes in the ice, and their flesh is firm and flaky. Fish are a wholesome source of proteins and fats, as well as of phosphorus, calcium, iron, niacin, and vitamins A, B and C.

In ponds, bass grow at the rate of a pound a year, up to about eight pounds. Bluegills grow up to about two pounds in size.

To make an existing pond produce this amount and weight of fish, several things must be done. Before you start preparing for hatchery fish, all existing "wild fish" (perch, sunfish, suckers, catfish, crappies, carp) must be killed, either by draining the pond or by the use of derris powder, which contains rotenone. Although these wild fish may be only minnow-sized, they prevent hatchery fish from reaching profitable size.

Next step is to clear your pond of all stumps, logs, brush and weeds. The idea behind the bass-bluegill combination is to have the bass feed on baby bluegills. One pair of bluegills will raise up to 20,000 fingerlings, yet a heavily fertilized acre pond will grow only 12,000 bluegills to pan size. Now, if bluegill fingerlings are allowed to hide in and around logs, stumps, brush and weeds, they elude the bass and soon overstock the pond. Both bass and bluegills then starve, and remain little larger than minnows.

**T**O make sure your pond is kept clear of weeds, keep the edge two feet deep all around the rectangle or circle. Weeds start in water less than

two feet deep and quickly spread into deeper water, where they are hard to control.

The center of the pond should be eight feet deep in areas where severe winters cause the ice to reach three feet in thickness. In milder parts of Canada, if your pond is fed from a spring or creek, a depth of six feet is sufficient.

Big fish cannot grow in muddy water, because muddy water cannot be fertilized. To insure clean, mud-free water, the pond area should be fenced from livestock, which trample down the edges. A pipe should carry water beyond the fence into a trough or drinking pool.

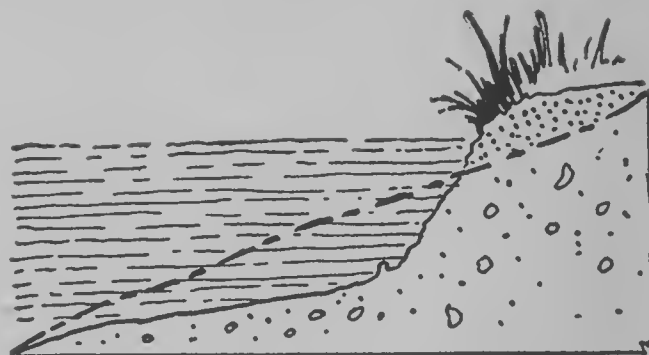
All around the water's edge, a 15-foot-wide strip should be sown to grass. Outside the strip there should be stands of shrubbery, and trees planted behind these bushes. Cedar, spruce, tamarack, elm, willow, and soft maple grow most successfully around ponds.

Watch for erosion. One small bare spot can muddy up a whole pond.

Fertilizing is one of the most necessary parts of profitable fish-raising. One pond supported 20 pounds of fish before fertilizing, while after fertilizing it supported 400 pounds of fish. Fertilizing causes the growth of microscopic plants called "algae." Tiny animalcules and insect larvae live on the plants, and fish in turn eat these little animals. The algae are the pasturage which grows natural fish food, and are what give pond water its deep green color.

To grow algae, the water must have sufficient nitrogen, phosphorus, potash and other materials. Commercial fertilizer provides these elements and is harmless to fish. An 8-8-4 fertilizer adds the proper amounts to the water. Most common fertilizers can be made the equivalent of 8-8-4 by adding sodium nitrate, or ammonium sulphate. To 100 pounds of 4-8-4 add 20 pounds of either one; to 6-8-4 add 10 pounds; to 3-8-5 add 25 pounds.

Broadcast the fertilizer by hand, all around the edge, letting wave action carry it toward the center



. . . Keep the water two feet deep around the edge.

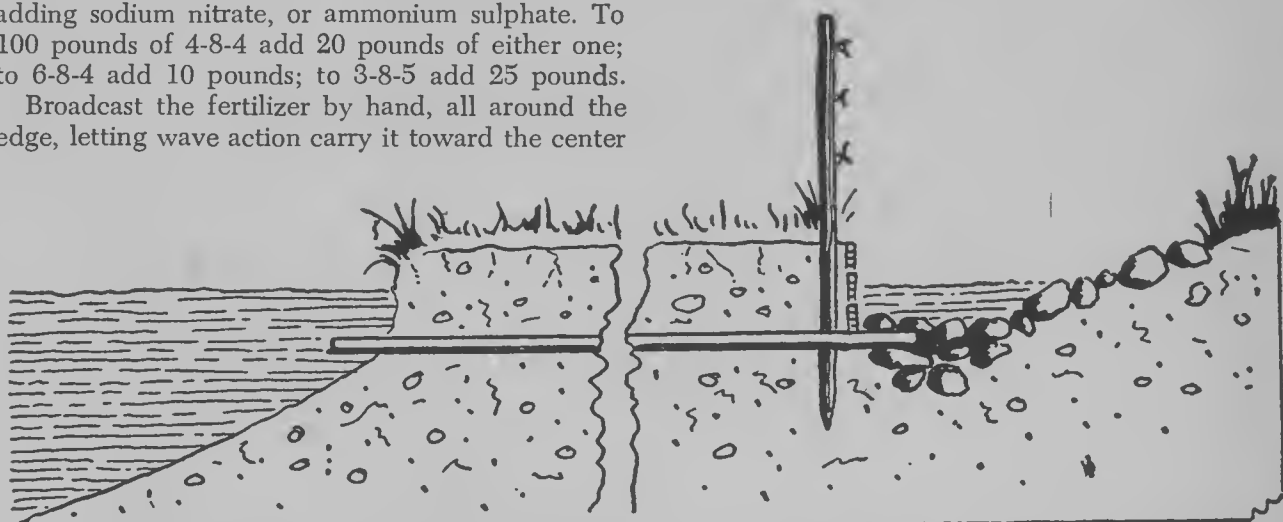
of a small pond. For larger ponds, pour the fertilizer a little at a time from the bag over the edge of a raft or boat.

The first application—100 pounds to an acre—surface of water—should be made each spring as soon as the ice is out. Each succeeding week for four weeks another 100 pounds should be put in the water. By this time the pond should become so green or brownish with algae that you can't see a shiny tin can submerged a foot below the surface. Only then do you have enough food for your fish. Thereafter, you need to add fertilizer only when the water begins to clear, which may be every six weeks or so. An acre pond needs at least 800 pounds of fertilizer a year.

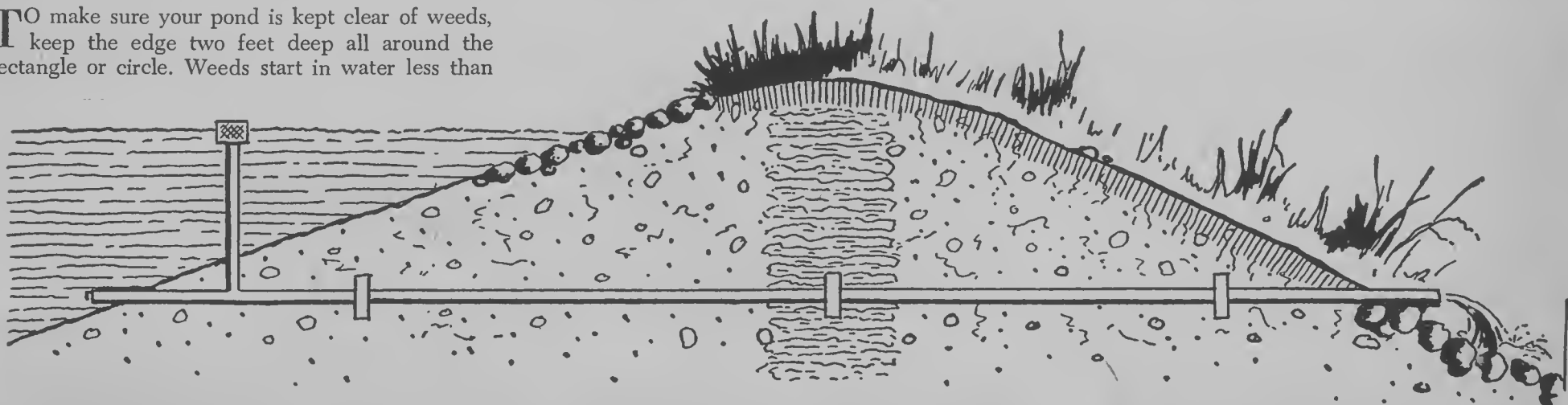
You need to stock your pond only once, if bass and bluegills are introduced in the correct proportions. An acre pond should be stocked with 100 bass and 1,500 bluegill fingerlings; these can be obtained from hatcheries for a few cents apiece.

The second year after stocking, your fish should be large enough to pan-fry. From then on, the more you fish, the more fish your pond will grow. You can't over-fish a good pond, but you can under-fish it. Your pond has

(Please turn to page 52)



The dam, if one is needed, can serve as a roadway, with a stock-watering pool opposite the main fish pond.



Note the clay core in the center of the dam, the three-to-one slope upstream and two-to-one downstream, and the drain pipe resting in three cement collars and plugged on the pond side. Note also the riser to feed water to the livestock pool.





S. C. Williams demonstrates the long, thick quarter possessed by one of his sale bulls at Calgary. Nine bulls averaged \$1,036 this year.

**Q**UIET-SPOKEN and resolute S. C. (Bud) Williams, of Claresholm, Alberta, has disproved several commonly accepted ideas during his lifetime on the farm. By insisting on finding out for himself, he has proved two things conclusively. First, he proved that land apparently too poor to yield a living could be turned into a prosperous farm. Second, by building a breeding herd in less than ten years that has come to be accepted by cattlemen as a source of desirable breeding stock, he proved that it does not take a lifetime to make a success of that business.

He demonstrated the first of these truths to himself many years ago, soon after coming to Canada. He was born and raised in the wheat farming district of Oregon, but has had an instinctive liking for cattle since he was a small boy. He hasn't really been without them since 1897, when he traded his saddle pony for a cow.

His start in farming began in 1907, when he went to a farm in the Claresholm district, only 2½ miles from his present place. Later, in 1916, he saw an opportunity to buy a quarter-section, for little more than taxes. He had watched the previous owners, in wet and dry years alike, try continually to crop the failing soil, until finally, heartbroken and discouraged, they abandoned the dried-out land.

He walked over the deserted and blowout-riddled acres, where the sunken patches of bare, brown soil

testified that the wind had torn out from a foot to three feet of the powdery topsoil. He called it "the worst thing that can happen to this country," and with a firm belief that the land could be salvaged, bought it. Working it together with his farm 2½ miles south, he tried crested wheatgrass, and the forage grew and covered the ground. Cattle were added to the enterprise, and when more neighboring farms were abandoned and came up for sale, he bought them, too. He knew, by then, that the land could be brought back into useful production. His block of land now totals 1,600 acres and it grows more feed than he can begin to use for his herd. Until 1944, the herd consisted only of commercial beef cattle, but it now numbers 100 purebred Herefords.

**B**Y 1944, Mr. Williams had completed a reasonably long, and very successful stint in the commercial cattle business. At a time when many men would be planning more hours of ease, and perhaps retirement, he was ready to turn to purebreds. He had learned, however, that beef men sell pounds of beef over the scale—the biggest steers bringing the most money. He had developed, too, a great admiration for the Pine Coulee Britisher Mischief breeding in the herd of J. M. Campbell, at Stavely, Alberta; and when referring now to the big, smooth cows he still remembers, his eyes light up and he says they are the kind of animals which are his goal today.

# He Doesn't Follow The Crowd

*S. C. Williams reclaimed drifting Alberta soil to build his farm, made a good living from commercial beef cattle and is now a successful Hereford breeder*

by DON BARON

When he began to buy purebreds in 1944, many acquaintances warned: "It takes a lifetime to build a reputation as a breeder. You are too old to start now." But start he would, not to make more money, but with another goal clearly in mind. He wanted to develop a strain of cattle with size, smoothness and thickness, the kind that commercial cattlemen wanted for the range and the feedlot.

His first purchase was the bull Pine Coulee Britisher 33rd, that died only last fall at a venerable age of 14 years. He selected a group of big strong cows from several different herds and mated them with his herd sire, a bull soon to become famous because of his remarkable prepotency. At present, most of the 60 breeding cows in the herd are by this famous old bull, while one son of the old herd sire has been retained to mate with these big females, in a line-breeding program.

In his 11 years as a breeder, he has never wavered from the ideal he first set himself. Evidence of his success can be seen every spring, at the Calgary Bull Sale. In 1953, the first five bulls offered at auction averaged \$1,535; and when the full consignment of ten bulls had gone through the ring, the average was still \$1,152. It was the second highest average among all breeders with a full entry of ten bulls, and this in one of the principal Hereford breeding centers of the world. This year at Calgary, with both steer and bull prices down, his nine bulls averaged \$1,036.

Unlike some breeders, who select promising young bulls as herd sires, Bud Williams looks for a bull that has already been proved. This policy led to the purchase of the present herd sire, a half-brother to the original herd sire, Pine Coulee Britisher 33rd. This big-framed animal is in heavy service to the daughters of the old bull.

Calves in the herd are weighed every month from weaning until they are two years old, to check their progress. Mr. Williams has been doing this for six years. He says there is no other yardstick which will so accurately measure the beef-making ability of beef cattle, and he would like to see bull-testing and progeny-testing put to more general use.

Strolling through the yard last summer, he pointed out a good 16-months-old bull calf that weighed 1,100 pounds, and another of the same age that tipped the scales at over 1,200 pounds. Both were compact and had the thickness and fleshing qualities that good cattlemen admire. A glance through his records in the little notebook he carries in his pocket showed that the calves averaged about 750 pounds, when weaned at about ten months of age.

The entire beef business is based on commercial herds where no fancy trimmings are tolerated. Animals have to turn into beef, feed that is mostly home-grown. This being true, Mr. Williams refuses to indulge his pedigreed cattle with much more care than most commercial cattlemen would be able to give. Not a nurse cow can be found on the place. Although he admits that they might make his cattle look a little better at a show or sale, it would not improve their breeding ability. The calves run on pasture with their dams, living on milk, grass and the whole oats that are available from the creep during the entire summer.

They are weaned in the fall, and are fed rolled oats, a little supplement, some beet pulp, and good crested wheatgrass hay, to keep them growing rapidly.

When selecting a bull from his own herd to be tried as a breeding animal, Mr. Williams' standards are high. First

(Please turn to page 56)



Big, rugged cows raise healthy calves on the Williams farm.





New concrete flume in the Coldstream district. The soil in this area is too porous to carry water.



These sprinklers take screened water from weirs higher up and are working at 50 pounds pressure.



This high flume—40 feet in places—carries mountain water from artificial lakes to orchard land.

# Water Makes Magic At Vernon

*The Vernon Irrigation District represents millions of invested dollars, but it also means intensive production of high-priced crops*

by GEORGE GRASSICK

THE Okanagan Valley in British Columbia, an irregular strip of land stretching roughly from the vicinity of Sicamous to the U.S. border, contains some of the richest farm land in Canada. It has a summer so long, so warm and so dry, however, that to grow crops, irrigation must be practised.

The Vernon Irrigation District waters about 7,000 acres in a locality nearly 40 miles south of the extreme north end of the valley, and about 100 miles north of the International Boundary. On these few thousand acres, several million dollars' worth of produce is grown each year as a result of irrigation.

Nearly all the water used by the V.I.D. falls in the form of snow, high upon mountains to the south. Two artificial lakes, Aberdeen and Haddow, catch and store the spring freshets and make them available for use in the torrid summer months.

To get this water onto the land, great obstacles had to be overcome by the original builders of the system. Hundreds of thousands of dollars had to be expended in building siphons alone. There are also 18 flumes of various lengths on the main canal, besides several more on branches.

ALTHOUGH irrigation has been used in the Vernon district for over 80 years, it was not until about 1907 that the present set-up was planned. What is now known as The Vernon Irrigation District was originally a company, with shareholders and a board of directors. However, the project ran into difficulties and the provincial government had to straighten things out, with some assistance in the form of loans. It was converted into an Irrigation District in 1920, which sells water to its users at cost. No dividends are paid to anyone.

The V.I.D. is under the direction of a Board of Trustees, who are elected for their terms of office at the District annual meeting. To operate the District requires a staff consisting of a manager, a superintendent of works, two foremen, twelve ditch-walkers, one or two repairmen and an office staff of one or two, depending on whether it is the busy

part of the season or not. In the spring a good many extra workers are employed, cleaning ditches and doing construction work. These are generally farmers, who work off their water bills instead of paying cash.

Flumes have to be built where the canal crosses a gully, or where the ground is too rocky to dig into. Flumes have also to be resorted to where the ground is so porous that it won't carry water. Miles of canals, both main and branch, have had to be lined with concrete, to prevent leakage. This work is still going on, but in spite of all this preventive activity, the District loses about 40 per cent of its water through leakage.

ONE might ask "was it worth-while to spend millions of dollars to get water onto such a small area—700 acres? Some wheat farms on the prairie are nearly that big." The answer is that many of the crops produced on land under irrigation, gross over a thousand dollars an acre.

Take tomatoes for instance. Counting the extra price obtained for semi-ripes and greens, together with the cannery run, sometimes an acre will gross \$1,200, even more. But since the cannery tomatoes are mostly processed in Vernon, by the time they have been turned into catsup, juice, or just plain canned, then labelled, packed in cartons and sold, the amount of money which this industry alone brings into the city, as well as the country districts, is considerable. A good pack of tomatoes would run from 16,000 to 20,000 tons.

Besides tomatoes, many hundreds of tons of green beans are grown and canned. Beans, of course, are much dearer than tomatoes. The price this year is to be \$98 a ton, first pick. The beans picked later are bigger, but don't bring such a high price. But the main crop in the Vernon district is the apple-crop. Hundreds of thousands of boxes of this fruit are graded, packed and shipped, or stored for later shipment. Without irrigation none of these products could be grown on such a scale, if at all.

The water itself is measured as it flows onto the farmer's land, and he pays for it at so much per



Water in this "V" weir is 3¾ inches deep and will operate 16 sprinklers after water is screened to remove foreign matter in the second box.

acre-foot. (Incidentally, the irrigation season starts the first week in May, and ends the first week in September.) An acre-foot is the equivalent of one acre of land covered with water to a depth of 12 inches.

The actual measuring is done by causing the water to flow over a weir. At most delivery points along the canal or pipeline, there are weirs, and the depth of water crossing these weirs determines the rate of flow. The commonest weir in use in the V.I.D. is the 90-degree triangular notch or "V" weir. Suppose a flow of six and a half inches depth crossed a "V" weir for 24 hours. That would amount to slightly over one acre-foot (an acre-foot costs \$5.50 on the V.I.D.).

Besides measuring by weirs, a recent innovation in the irrigation field is the sprinkler system. Some of these systems first run the water over a weir to measure it before it goes into the system itself, but there are other sprinkler set-ups which take water directly out of the canals. This is done mostly on fairly steep hillsides, with the result that gravity produces sufficient pressure to operate the sprinklers. The water in such cases is measured by finding out the pressure the sprinklers are working at (a pressure gauge located at the main operating level is necessary), as well as the diameter of the nozzles used, and the number of nozzles.

Each nozzle is mounted on a "riser" and it slowly revolves with a faint clicking sound. Generally the nozzles are one-eighth (Please turn to page 51)

Now you can shine back  
the deep-down colour of your car  
*in One easy step!*



**NEW**

# Deep Gloss Carnu

*from Johnson's Wax*

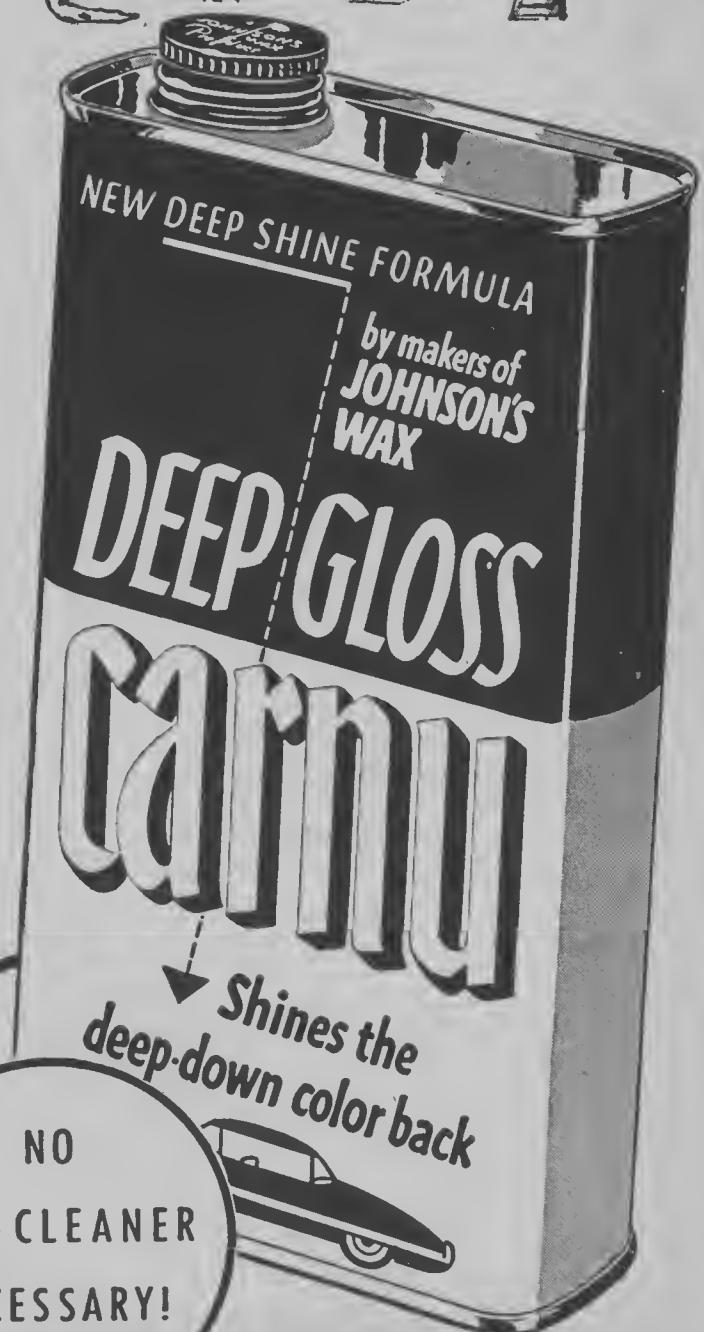
**gets blacks blacker, blues bluer, reds redder  
... outlasts any auto polish known!**

You can actually do your car in the morning ... and drive in the afternoon with a brilliant Deep Gloss shine! When you apply Johnson's Deep Gloss Carnu, five deep-cleaning agents go to work fast ... taking off dull road film. All the imbedded grease and grime is dissolved and absorbed by the Deep Gloss Carnu ... and then it dries to a light powder. It's an easy job to wipe it off without hard rubbing. Now you see the thrilling result! The deep-down color has come back. Your car's original showroom color has come to life once more. You feel so proud to drive it ... and the tough, mirror glaze of Deep Gloss Carnu lasts a long time!

**ONE  
FAST  
STEP**



*Simply rub on Deep Gloss Carnu. Let it dry to a powder. Then wipe it off. No hard rubbing necessary ... but watch the deep-down color come to life!*



**NO  
PRE-CLEANER  
NECESSARY!**

S. C. Johnson & Son, Ltd., Brantford, Canada



# Under the Peace Tower

by HUGH BOYD

IT was during the Easter recess of Parliament, with remarkably little advance fanfare, that an assorted group of Canadians converged on Ottawa for a two-day meeting. It seemed they were interested in the conservation of natural resources. Nothing could be less calculated to arouse excitement in a place where people are continually holding national conventions about this or that. Besides, conservation is among the very things some of these meetings touch on, in one way or another. Or if not here, then somewhere else.

However, it turned out that this particular conference had some unusual features. Foresters have talked conservation on various occasions; so have farmers or technical agriculturists; likewise the water engineers; and, naturalists and biologists, of course, those who are concerned particularly with management of fish and game and the other wildlife of this country. Yet this meeting, so it was claimed, was the first time since the year 1906 that so many phases of an interlocking subject were brought together in one room.

The names of the five sponsoring organizations give a key to its compass: the Agricultural Institute of Canada, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian Institute of Forestry, the Canadian Forestry Association, and the Engineering Institute of Canada. This list seems to leave out the naturalists, but they were there. Governments were not directly represented—for this was a non-governmental and therefore unrestricted gathering—but one federal cabinet minister (Mr. Lesage) opened the conference and another (Mr. Howe) closed it.

From the standpoint of from-the-floor discussion, this meeting was hardly remarkable. Too much time was taken up by the presentation of papers. This was no doubt a miscalculation, and subsequent conferences—which, it was agreed, should be held as regularly as possible—will be able to benefit from experience. As it was, there was a useful exchange of views through the formal papers and also through informal talks among a variety of specialists outside the conference room. And the attendant publicity is likely to have some effect, however transient, with the Canadian public. After all, the general topic isn't academic. It has to do with the renewable physical resources that constitute the nation's capital.

Out of the sessions emerged a resolution—that a royal commission should be set up to make an inventory of Canada's natural resources. The delegates had in mind something along the lines of the Paley Commission in the United States, which painted a picture of diminishing capital. A similar probe in Canada would probably not produce so disturbing a verdict, but this might merely mean that Canada has not been exploiting its soil, forests and other resources as long as its neighbor to the south has been doing, or at least not on so large a scale. All the more reason, perhaps, for a stock-taking at



this relatively early stage, while Canada still has only 15 million inhabitants.

Yet the idea of stock-taking isn't new. It has been applied to the Canadian woods, under the Canada Forestry Act of 1949, the plan being that the federal government should pay half the cost of an inventory by each of the provinces of its forest resources. All the provinces but two—Quebec and Newfoundland—have taken advantage of the inventory plan, and the work is now well advanced. Newfoundland has delayed, simply because it wasn't quite ready to commit itself financially; Quebec seems to have kept out for a different reason—the familiar one that Mr. Duplessis doesn't care to work with Ottawa.

It is not necessary to wait for the most precise data before launching a vigorous conservation program. That present policies have serious shortcomings is obvious enough, in spite of some solid progress during the last couple of decades. There is a better understanding of land use, and of the control of water, but knowing what to do isn't the same as doing it.

Under the Canada Forestry Act, for example, nothing is being attempted, (apart from the inventory scheme), but federal grants for reforestation, which are playing a fairly significant part in British Columbia and Ontario, in particular; and they mean a good deal to little Prince Edward Island. But Ottawa has made no offer to the provinces to help them with fire protection, although several provinces have asked for help. The federal government pleaded lack of funds while such a heavy burden was being placed on the nation for defence. Now that the defence bill is becoming lighter, federal assistance for fire protection may be forthcoming at last. It is overdue; indeed it might be considered a necessary part of the defence program itself.

This problem, and all others having to do with conservation, depend on the state of public opinion. When the public feels, not that it can't afford to pay for conservation measures, but that it can't afford to be without them, more is likely to be done to preserve the national resources, at Ottawa and elsewhere.

V

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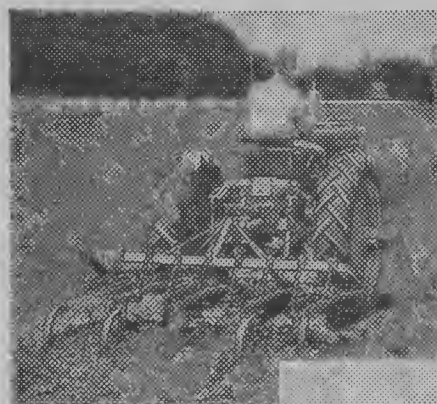
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Top photo: The drawn-type Model "CC"—a famous tillage tool the country over. Above: The "C-7," an integral field cultivator for John Deere "40's" and other 3-point hitch tractors. Right: The "C-4" for the John Deere "50," "60," and "70" Tractors.



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## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

### World Population

THE latest estimate of world population is for mid-1952, when the number of people was between 2,405 million and 2,533 million persons. This means an average of 18 people on each square kilometer (247 acres). The densest population is in Europe where there are 81 persons per 247 acres, and next comes Asia, with about 48 persons. Next in density is Central America and Mexico with 19 persons; North America, north of the Rio Grande, eight persons; Africa, seven persons; South America, six persons; and Oceania (Australia, New Zealand), two persons.

Asia has between 1,252 million and 1,361 million persons, excluding the U.S.S.R.; Europe, between 397 million and 401 million, excluding the U.S.S.R. (about 200 million); North America, between 173 million and 175 million; Africa, between 196 million and 214 million; South America, between 113 million and 119 million; Central America and Mexico, between 52 million and 54 million; and Oceania, between 13.4 million and 13.8 million.

Hong Kong is the most densely peopled place in the world, of more than 1,000 square kilometers (247,100 acres). Its population averages 2,221 per square kilometer. After Hong Kong come the Saar with 376; the Netherlands, 320; England and Wales, 291; Belgium, 285; Puerto Rico, 252; Martinique, 250; Japan, 232; Taiwan, 222; the Windward Islands, 135; Trinidad and Tobago, 129; Jamaica, 128; Ceylon, 121; India, 112; the Philippines, 69; the United States, 20; and Canada, 1.

### Manitoba Soils and Crops Branch

THE Hon. R. D. Robertson, Minister of Agriculture for Manitoba, announced late in April the appointment of J. M. Parker, soils specialist in the Extension Service of the Department since 1946, as acting director of a new Soils and Crops Branch established within the Department. Assistant director is P. H. Ford, agronomist in the Extension Service since 1950.

Mr. Parker is a 1938 graduate in agriculture from the University of Manitoba, who came from a farm near Togo, Saskatchewan. After graduation he was engaged in soil survey work in Manitoba for three years, and served with the Canadian army in Europe from 1940 to 1945, after which he joined the Extension Service of the Manitoba Department of Agriculture as soil specialist.

Mr. Ford came from a farm near Arden, Manitoba, and was graduated in agriculture from the University of Manitoba in 1948, after serving in the Canadian air force from 1942 until his discharge. Immediately after graduation he entered the Extension Service of the Department as assistant agronomist, becoming senior agronomist in 1950.

Simultaneously with the above announcements, the minister also announced the appointment of D. C. Foster, poultry specialist in the Extension Service as assistant director of



[U.K. Information photo]

**Sir John Russell, eminent British soil scientist, was recently awarded the Gold Medal of the Royal Agricultural Society.**

the Extension Service, to succeed W. S. Fraser, who recently became assistant commissioner for Manitoba, of the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada.

Mr. Foster was born and raised on a farm at Lena, Manitoba, and was graduated from the University of Manitoba in agriculture in 1925. He was, for a time, poultry inspector for the prairie provinces in the Experimental Farms System, with headquarters at Lethbridge. Later, in 1929-30, he was on the staff of the Poultry Department, University of Manitoba, afterward taking graduate studies at the University of Manitoba, becoming agricultural representative at Teulon in 1930. He has been extension poultry specialist since 1935, during which time the Approved Flock Policy has been successfully developed. Out of 15 4-H Club poultry teams trained under his direction for the national competitions at the Royal Winter Fair, 12 have taken first place. Mr. Foster has also been a member of the board of governors of the University of Manitoba for some years, and is presently vice-president of the Manitoba Institute of Agrologists.

He will be succeeded as extension poultry specialist by J. Ross Cameron, who has been Mr. Foster's assistant since 1951. He comes from a farm at Shoal Lake, Manitoba, was graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1948, later specializing in genetics, nutrition and physiology at Iowa State College, from which institution he obtained his master's degree in 1950. Since entering the Extension Service in 1951 he has been active in 4-H Club work.

### Theory About Rain

DR. E. G. BOWEN, Head of the Radio Physics Division of the Central Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in Australia, has come up with a rather remarkable theory with respect to rainfall. On known days in October, November, December, and in May, June and July, the earth passes through streams of meteors and meteor dust. These days are the same in each year and have, says Dr. Bowen, been known for many



## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

years. He seems to have established the fact that individual days of very heavy rainfall occur almost simultaneously at many places, and particularly in the southern hemisphere, about 30 days after the earth has passed through the meteoric shower. Days of heavy rain do not occur every year in each place, because rain can not fall unless suitable clouds are available. What the theory means is that if suitable clouds are present, the meteoric dust would serve as rain-forming nuclei, with the result that rainfall might be double the rainfall of nearby days. This, in turn, could mean that the potential increase in rainfall secured by artificial rain-making might be substantially greater than previous estimates would appear to indicate. ✓

### U.S. Exports and Imports Less

**A**GRICULTURAL exports from the United States dropped 17 per cent in 1953 from the level established in 1952, which was, in turn, 15 per cent below 1951 exports.

This meant that whereas farm products accounted for 23 per cent of U.S. exports in 1952, they accounted for only 18 per cent in 1953. There were some increases in exports of tobacco, soybeans, corn, tallow, meats, evaporated milk, and fresh oranges, but the chief declines in exports were in wheat, cotton, lard, grain sorghums, soybean oil, barley, white potatoes, raisins and apples.

Last year U.S. exports of wheat and wheat flour decreased by 38 per cent from the previous year, though wheat remains the No. 1 farm export, accounting for 20 per cent of the total.

Last year also, the United States imported some seven per cent less foreign farm products in 1952, during which year six per cent less was imported than in 1951. Among competitive foreign agricultural products, the U.S. imported last year 32 per cent less apparel wool, 70 per cent less wheat, 45 per cent less feeds and fodders, and 37 per cent less beef. On the other hand, there were increases in competitive imports, such as a 79 per cent increase in cattle imports; pork, 114 per cent; barley, 96 per cent; and oats, 20 per cent. ✓

### Farm Cash Income, 1953

**F**ARM cash income last year is estimated as having been three per cent below the all-time high of 1952. Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan each registered increases above 1952, Saskatchewan reaching an all-time high of \$743.4 million. All other provinces registered declines, British Columbia, from \$104.2 million to \$103.4 million; Alberta, from \$506.5 million to \$491.5 million; and Manitoba, from \$249.8 million to \$214.2 million.

Cash income from all field crops was down about \$60 million below 1952. Livestock sales were down about six per cent, but dairy products were up four per cent, and poultry and eggs, five per cent.

Total cash income, including supplementary payments of \$1,572,000, was \$2,742,824,000. This figure com-

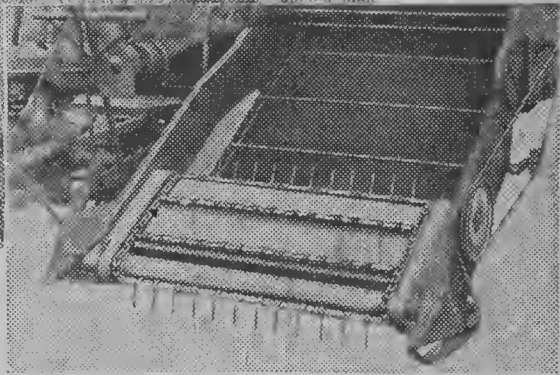
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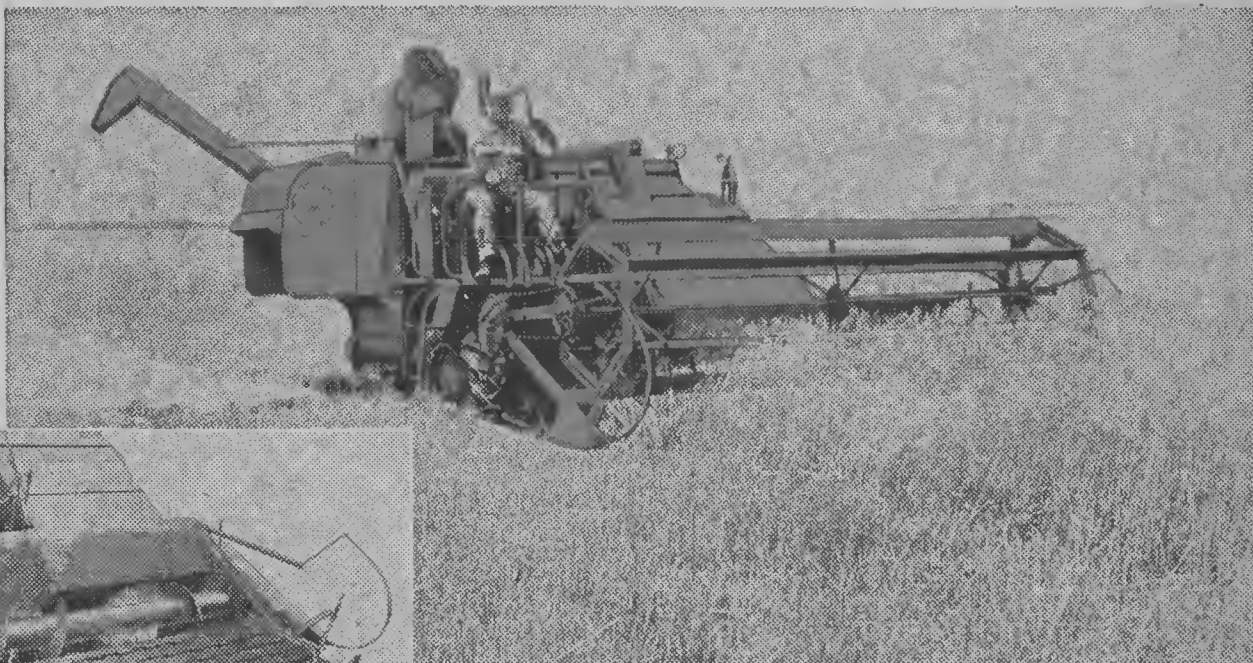
You'll find all the unmistakable features of a genuine ALL-CROP Harvester in the pull-type Model 66 and the self-propelled Model 100 — here now for a more profitable harvest tuned to the times!

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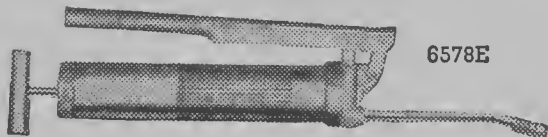
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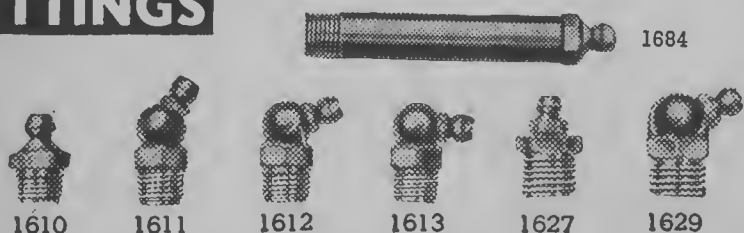


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### NEWS OF AGRICULTURE

pares with \$2,831,747,000 in 1952, and \$2,826,817,000 in 1951. V

### U.K. Farmers Aim At Marketing Board

STATE control of meat marketing will end in July in the United Kingdom. The Farmers' Unions of the U.K. have presented a scheme for the marketing of fat stock on a killed and graded basis, by means of a producers' marketing board. This suggestion is made to conform with provisions in a government White Paper on agricultural marketing. The U.K. Farmers' Unions, however, state that there is not enough time to establish such a board by July. Therefore, to carry over until such a scheme can be set up, the farm organizations are establishing a commercial company to market fat stock.

The company will market bacon hogs as well as providing facilities for the sale of cattle, sheep, and pigs for pork. This company would likely operate until early 1955, the earliest time by which a producers' marketing board could be officially established. V

### Western Canada Plowing Match

THE plowing match at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, is 54 years old. It has been called the Provincial Horse and Tractor Plowing Match, but now its new name is to be the Western Canada and Manitoba Provincial Plowing Championships, according to press reports. In line with this change of name, competitions at the Portage Match to be held next month, will lead to Western Canadian championships; and invitations have already been issued to other associations and plowmen in Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.

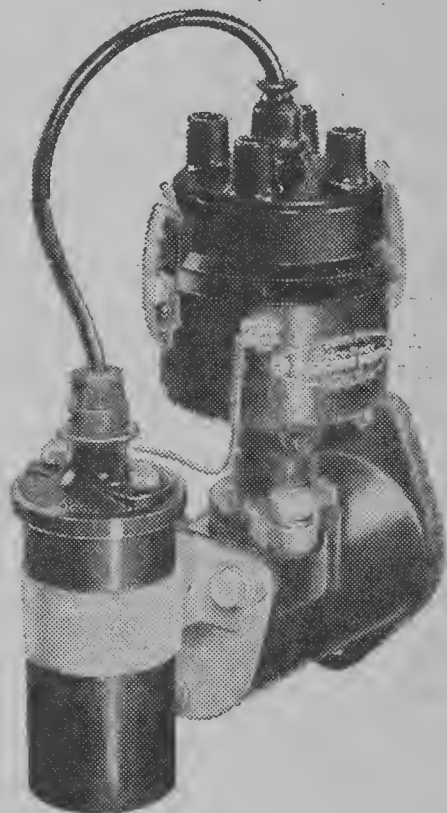
To enliven the event and, presumably to uphold the honor of Manitoba, the Manitoba Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. R. D. Robertson, has issued a challenge to the Rt. Hon. James G. Gardiner, and to the other three Provincial Ministers of Agriculture, to meet him in tractor plowing competition at Portage. V

### Rats Cause Eighty Per Cent Loss

NOT long ago it was reported that an estimated 200,000 persons are starving, or near starvation, in the Philippines, because of the destruction of food by rats. It was estimated that 80 per cent of the 1953-54 crop in Cotabato province has been destroyed. The director of the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund, who has lived in the area for 20 years, called it the worst rat invasion of the province in history. Several hundred families have deserted this and an adjoining province. There were reports of death by starvation, and of people in the worst-stricken areas going insane.

"The whole farming operation has been paralyzed, and when I say all, I mean all," he said. Huge hordes of rats breed in the swamps of Cotabato, and a million dollars was appropriated as an emergency fund. V

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## Get It At a Glance

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World cattle numbers in 1953 reached a new high of 856 million head. In 1951 the increase was 19 millions, and in 1952, 24 millions, but last year the rate of increase seemed to be slowing up, and was only one per cent, or 7 million head. ✓

When Secretary Benson reduced the level of price supports on dairy products from 90 to 75 per cent, he had in mind the fact that the very large quantities of dairy products in the hands of the government were the equivalent of about eight billion pounds of milk, and that milk production was expected to increase a further 3 billion pounds this year over 1953, which in turn was five billion pounds over 1952. ✓

The first community auction sale of cattle of this spring was held at Pincher Station, Alberta, when 419 head of cattle were reported sold for a top price of \$19.00 per hundred-weight for good steers. Heifers brought \$17.50; cows, \$14.70; calves, \$14.25; and bulls, \$13.10. ✓

A record for Large White pigs in Britain was achieved at a March sale when a Solihull boar went for 700 gs. The previous high for the breed was 570 gs. for a boar from the same herd last year. ✓

The Ontario Beef Cattle Producers' Association on April 7 in Toronto decided after a four-hour discussion, to support the proposed Canadian Meat Council, and approved the five-cents-per-head voluntary levy on all cattle moving through public stockyards. They also voted in favor of an additional three-cents-per-head levy to support the Association. ✓

The Tree Planting Car operated by the Canadian Forestry Association, which started its first tour 34 years ago, made its first 1954 stop at Attica, Saskatchewan, on April 27. It will conclude at Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, on September 30. ✓

In 1880, U.S. farms and ranches made up 28 per cent of the land area of the United States; in 1920, they included 50 per cent of the land area; and in 1950, 60 per cent. Some of the land now included as farm land, however, consists of public and private lands not previously included. ✓

Jack Murray, farmer and feedlot operator at Picture Butte, Alberta, was recently reported as having sold 1,050 head of choice two-year-old, grain-fed, fat cattle to a Tacoma, Washington, packing company for something over 19 cents per pound, or close to a quarter of a million dollars. ✓

A Quebec cattle breeder was found guilty not long ago of falsely registering Holstein cattle. The magistrate was convinced that the breeder had been dishonestly falsifying the registrations of animals, as those of artificially-bred Holsteins of distinguished parentage. ✓

A British court in Cheshire awarded £280 damages to a farmer who had bought a bull for £45, which he said was useless for breeding purposes and which he sold to the Ministry of Food. The Commissioner based his decision on the difference in meaning between two terms commonly used in Cheshire—"straight for service" and "right and straight for stock," the latter meaning a good breeding bull. ✓

The Netherlands has nosed out Denmark as the world's largest exporter of fresh eggs. Last year, of every 100 eggs produced in the Netherlands, 60 were exported, to make a total of 1,644 million eggs. ✓

Three representatives of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture left early in April for West Germany, at the invitation of the Canada Department of Immigration, to make a special study of the system of selection and immigration of farm labor from western Europe to Canada. They were expected to make their report to the Department of Immigration by the end of April. The three were: R. A. Stewart, Almonte, Ontario; Roy Marler, president of the Alberta Federation of Agriculture, Bremner, Alta.; and Keith Bradley, Mansonville, Quebec. ✓

The Dairy Farmers of Canada are hoping to secure \$400,000 this year from the June set-aside of one cent per pound butterfat for all milk marketed. Money so collected goes into a national fund for the advertising of dairy products, public relations of the dairy industry, and for research. ✓

The Saskatchewan Federal-Provincial Farm Labor Committee has recommended that for this year no more than 100 German farm immigrants be confirmed for placement in the province. Up to March 31, more than 400 German immigrants had been placed on Saskatchewan farms, but few have remained more than a year. ✓

H. A. Friesen has been transferred to the Experimental Station, Lacombe, Alta., as senior agronomist, from the Experimental Station, Scott, Sask., where he was senior agronomist also. He replaces H. W. Leggett, recently transferred to Regina as officer-in-charge of the Regina Substation. ✓

At the Perth Shorthorn Sale in Scotland in February, 302 bulls averaged £670 13s. 3d. which was £70 more than the previous record high in 1952. Thirty-seven January bulls averaged £1,331 15s. 11d., the top five in the class bringing 38,500 gs. The third-prize animal in this class topped the sale at 10,100 gs. ✓

The South Saskatchewan River project is still in the discussion stage. Final agreement between the federal and provincial governments as to the sharing of costs has not yet been reached and announced. ✓

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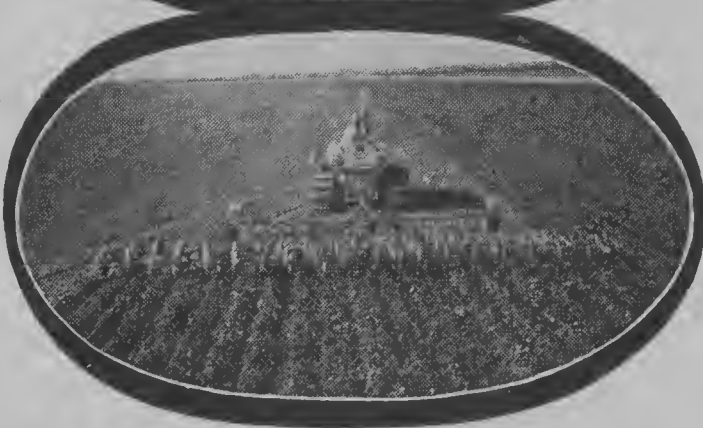
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Flocks are back on the open range in May.

## Answer To Dwarfism

*An instrument to detect carrier animals among Hereford bulls is now available, and is being tried out in B.C. and Alberta*

SCIENTISTS studying dwarfism in cattle say that they have found at least part of the answer. Dr. R. H. Clark, co-ordinator of research on beef cattle for the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, told Canadian breeders not long ago that an instrument called a *profilometer* will distinguish between carriers of the defect, and clean animals, among mature horned Hereford bulls. He also said that the instrument, which accurately profiles the head conformation of the animal, was very accurate on animals in the 12-to-18-months age group.

This is the brightest hope that has yet been held out to breeders, who are only now beginning to realize the threat posed by this inherited factor. Scientists meeting in the United States last fall, described several projects under way, which were designed to meet the need for a reliable method of distinguishing carrier animals. At that time, work had not progressed far enough to provide that answer. The only sure method, they pointed out, was to mate suspected animals to a number of other known carriers and wait for the calves to be born. This, of course, was too slow a method to help many breeders.

Pointing out the significance of the profilometer, Dr. Clark said that many breeders in the United States had deliberately tried to fix the "compressed" type of cattle in their herds, by selecting small, short-coupled, early-maturing animals with broad, short, and somewhat dished heads. Often, these animals carried the factor for dwarfism, and when mated together, many of the progeny turned out to be actual dwarfs. He said that no accurate estimate of the amount of dwarfism in the total cattle population could be made, but that the problem was widespread in both purebred and commercial herds. In one herd, where the compress fad had really taken hold,

the calf crop ran as high as 20 per cent dwarfs.

The profilometer was developed by Dr. Paul Gregory, at the University of California, and promises to assist Canadian breeders, too, in fighting off this inherited defect. Already, Dr. Wallace Gunn, livestock commissioner for British Columbia has procured one to attempt identification of dwarf carriers in that province. Dr. L. E. McElroy, University of Alberta, Edmonton, has studied the results of Dr. Gregory's work, is satisfied that the instrument is reliable, and has ordered one for use in that province. Although the Ontario Department of Agriculture has not yet obtained one, W. P. Watson, the livestock commissioner, says he has reason to believe dwarfism is becoming a serious problem, and would like to see a profilometer available there.

Although the frequency of dwarfism in Canada is not accurately known, some dwarfs of all breeds of cattle seem to have been found, and the nature of the defect makes it possible that it has gained a stronger foothold in herds, than breeders are aware. Since it is inherited as a recessive factor, if a bull carrying it is used in a herd of clean females, not a dwarf calf will be born. However, half of the calves born will be carriers of the factor, and if these, in turn, are mated to carrier animals, some dwarf progeny will result. If every female in a herd carried the factor, as well as the herd sire, then geneticists say one-quarter of all the progeny born would be actually dwarfs.

Since carrier animals—that appear normal to the breeder—are the ones that can bring the abnormality into the herd, they are the ones that must be identified. If a breeder has already used a herd sire that carried the dwarf factor, and has retained some of the progeny as breeding stock, it is doubly important that he be sure his next



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## LIVESTOCK

herd sire is free of the factor. The profilometer promises to tell breeders just that, if it is properly used on the animals for which it was developed. It seems to offer breeders the best assistance available yet, to help keep their herds free from dwarfism. V

### Guard the Good Wool

EVERY rolled fleece should contain prime wool only, says the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers Limited. Canadian fleeces must compete with wool from other countries, and with synthetic fibres as well, in finding a market in Canadian mills. All clippings and tag locks that are not up to standard will bring some return if put into a separate package, but they only discount the entire fleece when mixed with it. That's why tags and face and leg clippings, and black and grey fleeces should be packed separately. It is almost impossible for wool graders to make a perfect job of separation from a rolled fleece at time of grading.

The Wool Growers make the following suggestions to flock owners. Shear the sheep on a dry and clean floor, and only when the fleeces are perfectly dry. Keep the fleece away from chaff and straw, they say, and remove all black, grey, or off-color fibre. Then put the main fleece on a slatted table or stretched wire netting, with flesh side down, turning in the edges and rolling from britch to shoulder. The shearer should avoid second cuts, because the short trimming cuts are objectionable in a rolled fleece. V

### Quick Action For Bloat

QUICK action is sometimes needed, if animals become seriously bloated, says the University of Wisconsin.

When an animal shows no sign of recovering without help, the paunch pressure must be relieved. Insert a sharp instrument such as a jackknife or trocar, deep into the most swollen part of the left flank, to let the gas escape. A trocar and canula are preferable to a jackknife for this job, for the tube or canula can be left in place until the pressure is fully relieved, and the wound heals better afterward. Wounds caused by sticking will probably need medical attention.

Animals should be temporarily moved to rougher pasture when cases of bloat appear, and in less severe cases of bloat a veterinarian, if he can be called in time, can relieve the gas pressure with a stomach tube. Strong medicines to stop the action of micro-organisms in the paunch, usually do more harm than good, because micro-organisms are necessary for normal digestion. V

### Apply a Clear Brand

BRANDS provide protection against loss of cattle by straying and theft, but the brand must be clear and permanent. W. H. T. Mead, livestock

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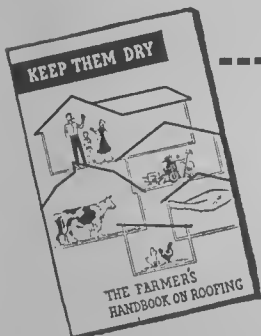
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## LIVESTOCK

commissioner in Alberta, suggests the following methods of ensuring that a permanent and useful identification results from branding.

First, he says, register the brand with the Recorder of Brands in the province. Then, carefully construct the branding iron. Make the face of cattle irons at least one-quarter-inch thick, with characters not less than three inches high for calves and not less than four inches for yearlings and older cattle. If two or more pieces of metal come together at one point in the face of the iron, he suggests that a notch be filed there one-quarter-inch wide and one-quarter-inch deep, to prevent too much heat being applied at that point. Hair sticking to the iron can be removed by rubbing the iron on the ground.

Animals can be restrained by stretching, or by using a squeeze gate, but those wet with rain or sweat should not be branded. Neither liquid nor acid should be used, because they may run and result in an illegible brand. Irons are heated to a dull red, in a bank of coals, and then applied, pressing steadily but not too hard, and rocking gently until the burnt skin is pink. Burning too deeply causes unnecessary scabbing and blotching. V

### Feed for Young Calves

THE first milk or colostrum, which is high in protein and mineral matter and rich in vitamin A, is required by new-born dairy calves, says the Saskatchewan Guide to Farm Practice. Whole milk may well be fed for the first two or three weeks of the calf's life, before the gradual change is made to skim milk. The stomach capacity of new-born calves is limited, however, and too much milk is a common cause of scours. A daily ration of milk, equal to ten per cent of the calf's weight, is enough to feed young calves up to four to six weeks of age.

If skim milk is not available, a good calf meal can be used until the calves are three to four months old. Used according to directions, it will give good results. Only small amounts are fed, either with warm water, or in the dry form. However, the calf that is allowed skim milk until six or seven months of age, does not require calf meals, but will do well on a simple mixture of farm grains containing an additional 15 per cent wheat bran and 15 per cent linseed oil meal. V

### Early Grazing Damages Pasture

IF pasture plants are given a month or so to establish themselves in the spring, they will produce better grazing throughout the year. Too early grazing is likely to deplete the plant food reserves.

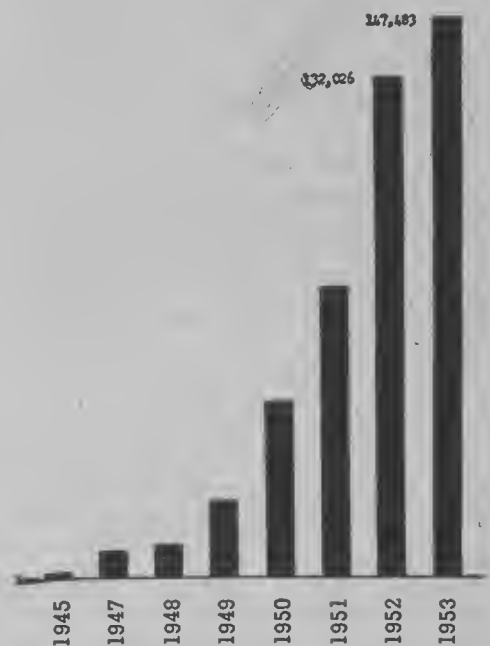
R. L. Pharis, supervisor of crop improvement, Alberta Department of Agriculture, says that good pasture is the cheapest form of livestock feed. Farmers who do not have enough regular pasture to carry through the entire season are advised to supplement it with annual pasture. A mixture

of one bushel of fall rye and two bushels of oats per acre sown this spring will provide good summer grazing when permanent pastures are unproductive.

Rotational grazing of available pasture will assist in getting the maximum use of it, and in seasons of heavy growth, some grazing might be allowed during the first year on newly sown grass and legume mixtures. However, this would necessarily be discontinued early in the fall to allow the young plants to build up reserves for the coming winter. V

### Vaccinate Heifers To Control Bang's

THROUGH the federal-provincial brucellosis control program, the tempo of calfhood vaccination is increasing on Canadian farms. Brucellosis is regarded by many stockmen both in Canada and the United States, as the most serious disease problem still confronting the cattle industry. Not only does it sometimes result in heavy losses in individual herds, but it can also spread to humans, and sicken them with the disease called undulant fever.



Number of calves vaccinated for bovine brucellosis in Alberta.

Veterinarians say the only way to bring the disease under control is through a calfhood vaccination policy. With government help, more and more farmers are having their calves vaccinated with the living brucella abortus organisms, the standard vaccine throughout Canada. To be listed as official vaccinates under Health of Animals regulations, and thus be eligible for export, without further testing, up to 22 months after date of vaccination, calves must be done when over six months of age and under nine months. Since the live vaccine is used, which can infect humans, the work must be done by veterinarians. Calves may be vaccinated after four months of age, and under 12 months, and will develop the resistance to brucellosis, but these will not be classified as official vaccinates, or given export privileges.

Infection in a herd is most likely to come from an infected animal which has been recently introduced. A blood

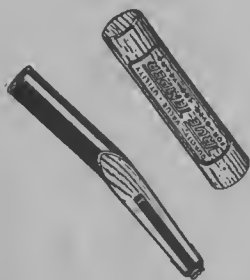


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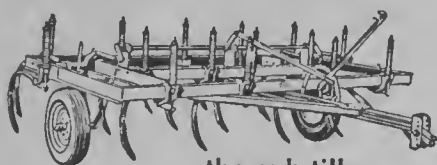


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## LIVESTOCK

test taken by a veterinarian will tell whether or not an animal is infected. Most apparent symptom of the disease is the premature birth of a calf, during the fifth to eighth month of pregnancy. If the disease gains entrance to a herd free of the disease, and with no resistance to it, a serious calf crop loss can result.

That's why stockmen are urged to begin vaccinating their calves. As the resistant animals mature and go into the herd, they can replace the older and non-resistant cows.

Under the program, the vaccine is provided to registered veterinarians free of charge, and the owner pays the veterinarian for administering it. A municipal plan is available, under which an entire municipality may carry out a Bang's disease control program; and there is also a herd plan, designed to assist cattle owners to control the disease in their own herds. ✓

## Spray for Sheep Ticks

**S**HEEP ticks feed quietly on ewes during winter months, but at the approach of spring, and the appearance of the first lambs, they display a remarkable intelligence, says Alex Charnetski, livestock supervisor of the Alberta Department of Agriculture. They change their habitat, and quickly move to the lambs, which offer more desirable feeding. Severe tick infestation often causes anemia and unthriftiness; therefore, sheepmen will do well to protect their flock by treating for these parasites.

The flock can be dipped or sprayed, and a high pressure sprayer can be used to spray with Cooper Tox. If this is not available, an ordinary weed-can sprayers will do the job. The solution can be mixed according to manufacturers' directions, in a large can, or small oil drum, and the lambs dipped into the solution while held by the front feet. The remaining solution can be sprayed over the ewes, when they are bunched together in a chute, using about a quart per head. Spraying is done a day or two after the sheep are shorn—never before. ✓

## Saskatchewan Supplement

**A** SUITABLE home-mixed supplement for cattle, sheep and horses on pasture in Saskatchewan, can be used, says Dr. J. M. Bell, of the University of Saskatchewan. Mix 65 pounds of bonemeal, five pounds of ground limestone and 30 pounds of cobalt-iodized loose salt. Iodized or cobalt-iodized salt ought to be provided separately too, so that animals will not have to eat the bonemeal if they want salt alone.

Dr. Bell points out that Saskatchewan pastures consist mostly of grasses containing insufficient calcium and phosphorus to meet the needs of livestock; and the area is also deficient in iodine and is borderline in cobalt content. Commercial mixtures, too, can be purchased to meet these needs, and these are available in either loose, or block form. ✓

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Soil drifting at some prairie points this spring is a grim reminder of the black blizzards of 20 years ago. This picture was taken in 1931.

## Planned Erosion Control

*Careful planning of erosion control measures can save vital plant nutrients in the soil*

**C**LIMATIC conditions during the last few years have reduced wind erosion, due to the absence of prolonged periods of high winds, or hot, dry weather. Most areas have had enough moisture to produce sufficient growth for an effective trash cover.

Even under these favorable conditions there has been some wind erosion, according to J. L. Doughty, Soil Research Laboratory, Swift Current, Sask. He says that meteorological records show that years of low precipitation are of frequent occurrence, and they are likely to come again. High winds may occur at any time, and are particularly likely in the spring, a time when the soil has the least protection. For these reasons it is important to have a consistent, planned program for the control of wind erosion.

A straw mulch is the best protection against both wind and water erosion. For this reason cultural operations should be planned to make the maximum use of all crop residue. Implements should be properly adjusted, and operated at a speed that will neither cause undue pulverization of the soil, nor bury straw and stubble. The inadvisability of burning straw is obvious; almost any other method of dealing with it is preferable to burning.

Plans should be made against the years when there is not enough straw to stabilize the soil. Cultural operations on fallow may be delayed until there is sufficient weed growth for a trash cover, though weeds rot more quickly than straw, and so are not as effective. An alternative, on some types of soil, is to create a rough, cloddy surface by using implements such as the cultivator, plow or lister. Any plan

that will reduce wind velocity or trap moving soil will help control erosion.

Soil drifting may spread across a field from a very small beginning. Such danger points as a sandy knoll should be carefully watched for the beginnings of erosion, and the erosion stopped at once. A single severe dust storm may destroy a crop and damage the fertility of a field.

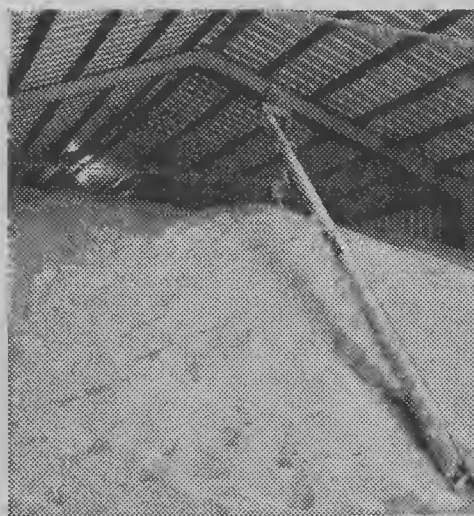
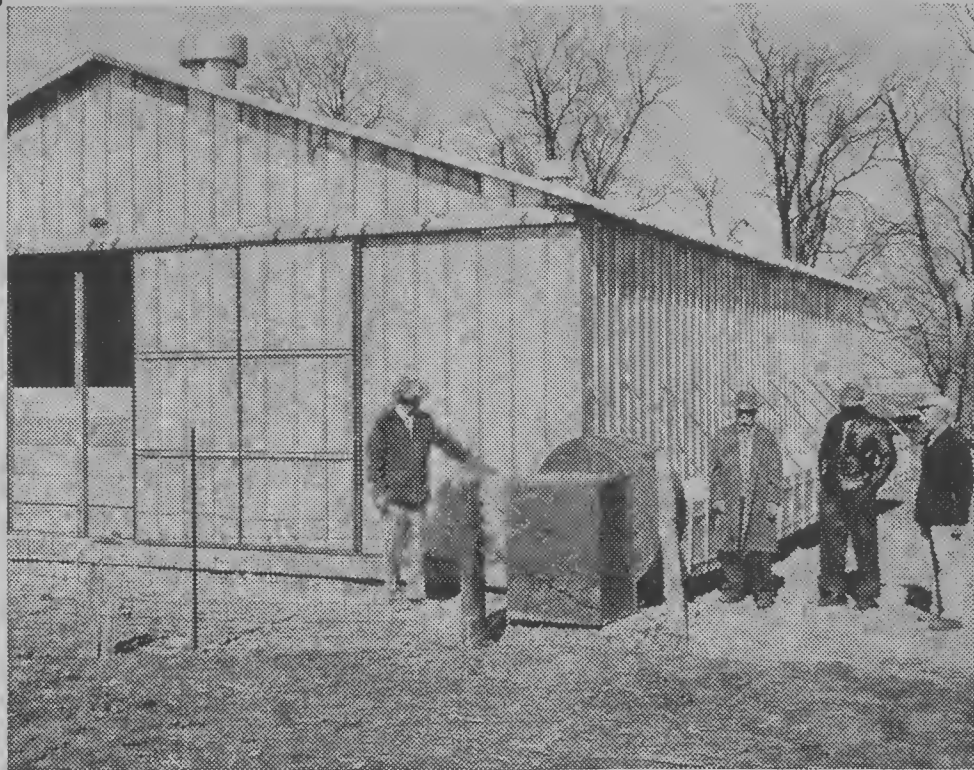
It is a good policy to have a well-planned program of emergency control that can be put into immediate operation when the need arises. ✓

### Crops for Wet And Saline Soils

**M**ANY saline (white alkali) soils that cannot be reclaimed for regular cereal crop production by draining and leaching, can be put to profitable use by the selection of suitable crops. Excess salts and a high water table often occur together, especially on irrigated land, so crops to be used on these soils should be tolerant of both conditions. Water often stands on such soils in the spring; therefore, perennial crops that do not require yearly cultural operations are the best.

Saline soils are often indicated by the growth of such plants as wild barley (often called foxtail) and spear-leaf goosefoot. Nuttall's alkali grass often grows on these soils, too, and is of more value than wild barley, which stock avoid after the awns form.

Tests have been carried out at the Lethbridge Experimental Station to determine the relative salt tolerance of various forage crops. Tall wheat-grass and Russian wild rye have



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They're been out getting their share of pests, the crow, gopher and the raiding coyotes along with other such open-season targets.

Gophers have always proved the most interesting targets for that surprisingly powerful .22 calibre rim-fire rifle. The modern .22 cartridge is economical and highly effective. Its deadly action, when mushroom bullets are used, is a safeguard against leaving wounded pests around.

Every measure of gun-safety must be shown if this type of shooting is being done on a farmer's field. Here young Johnny may receive his initial and most important lessons. If he has been taught the principles of good gun handling, pest shooting is an ideal introduction to hunting.

For coyotes and crows, the shotgun, with the powerful long-range "Maxum", is the popular weapon. Of course, hunters must be careful to avoid injuring domestic animals or damaging farm buildings and remember that a .22 bullet will travel up to one mile; also that a shotgun is dangerous up to 300 yards and some centre fire rifle bullets will carry more than two miles.

A large number of acquaintances, taking an afternoon off in their cars, have patrolled the by-roads and side-roads to pick themselves off a coyote or two. A happy thought for the farmer or rancher.

Generally speaking, though, my friends have shunned some of the "organized" coyote hunts. Knowing the power of the shells and how the circle on these hunts becomes too small, they shy off. Too often some Trigger-Happy Harry is present to pump away in wild abandon.

Whether you're a scatter-gun enthusiast or a rifleman, there are plenty of pests to keep you busy now that Spring is here.

Take a tip from The Deacon (Jack Deakin), popular columnist of the Edmonton Journal and remember, when you shoot pests, you're helping game conservation, and brushing up your marksmanship for Fall hunting.



### Sportsman's Favourites



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Give you all-weather performance with the exclusive "Pressure-Sealed Crimp"... there's no tap wad to break up the hard hitting and uniform pattern.



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FROM COAST TO COAST

## FIELD

proved excellent in seed germination and seedling establishment. Alta fescue is good under more moderate salt conditions, and Reed canary grass, although it is not tolerant to salt, is highly resistant to flooding and water-logging.

Most legumes are difficult to establish on saline soils but, once established, alfalfa and sweet clover can be fairly productive. Sweet clover is superior to alfalfa, because of its ability to withstand water-logging, but the fact that it is a biennial is a disadvantage.

At present the use of tall wheatgrass is suggested for soils too saline for alfalfa production. Tests carried out in Saskatchewan indicate that it is both salt tolerant and water tolerant. If the land is subject to periods of spring flooding, but is not saline, Reed canary grass is recommended. The use of these grasses can sharply increase production on such problem soils. V

## 2,4-D In Cereal Crops

BEFORE preparing to spray a crop for weed control, a check should be made to determine the extent to which the weeds that infest the field are susceptible to the herbicide. A few common annuals, such as wild oats, hemp nettle, wild buckwheat, and green or yellow foxtail are completely resistant to 2,4-D. Most common annuals, such as wild mustard, stinkweed, lamb's quarters, pigweed, ball mustard, wormseed mustard and Russian pigweed are very susceptible, and can be completely eradicated by spraying at the right time.

Susceptible annual weeds are most easily killed in the seedling stage, says H. W. Leggett, Lacombe Experimental Station. He recommends spraying at this time. As some of them, (most notably, stinkweed), progress beyond this stage, they become more resistant and up to four ounces of chemical is required. At the earlier stage, two and one-half to three ounces is sufficient.

Cereal crops differ in their reaction to 2,4-D, and spraying must not be done at a stage of growth that will depress yields. Wheat and barley crops may be safely sprayed as soon as they reach the three-leaf stage, and treatment may be safely continued up until the early shot-leaf or boot stage.

Oats are more sensitive to 2,4-D, but may be treated with comparative safety from the early shot-blade stage until just before heading.

Ideal conditions for spraying exist when the weather is warm, but not hot, and when there is ample moisture for rapid growth. V

## Seeding Under Trash Cover

TESTS are under way at the Claresholm and Pincher Creek substations, under the supervision of the Lethbridge Experimental Station, of new seeding implements designed to place seed under a trash cover. The intent is to be able to seed cover crops for fall pasture, and still retain a trash cover on the surface for the

protection of the soil, if the cover crop is a failure.

Seeding oats in July as a cover crop is now accepted practice in the foothills area of Alberta, although originally the practice was designed to prevent soil drifting and water erosion on fallow fields. When blade-type cultivators were developed and the trash cover for fallow fields was made possible, the cover crops were continued as pasture for the finishing of feeder cattle. As cattle can gain from 1½ to 2½ pounds per day per animal on good cover crops, and maintain such gain for about five weeks if the weather is favorable, such pasture has sold—due to high prices for cattle—at as much as \$10 per acre.

"There has been the odd year," says the station, "when cover crops have been disappointing. Early snowstorms have resulted in small gains or even slight loss of weight for cattle on cover crops. Insects, such as aphids and grasshoppers, in some years have fed on the crops and left very little pasture and cover. When the summer and fall have been dry, usually there has been a poor stand of cover crop, and farmers have buried the trash cover previously left on the soil to try to get the seed in moist soil. The result has been inadequate soil protection and poor pasture." V

## New Forage Crop Varieties

TWO new forage crop varieties were recently placed on the market, one in Canada and one in the United States. Both varieties hold some promise for irrigated areas, particularly those located in southern Alberta.

The new variety developed and licensed in Canada is a red clover named Lasalle. It is a double-cut clover and requires a long growing season for maximum forage yield. It is best adapted to eastern Canada, and will not yield as much forage in Alberta as the recommended variety, Altaswede. However, tests reported by R. K. Downey, Experimental Station, Lethbridge, have shown Lasalle to be well adapted to that area as a seed producer. It is possible that seed might be grown in the irrigation districts of Alberta for the eastern market.

Vernal is the name of a new alfalfa variety developed at the University of Wisconsin. It has not been licensed in Canada, because trials with it have not been completed. It is not known, therefore, whether it will be winter-hardy under our conditions.

If Vernal proves to be winter-hardy, it will be best adapted to the irrigation districts. Tests have shown it to have a high degree of resistance to bacterial wilt, which has been a source of serious loss.

Until further investigation of this new variety has been completed, Ladak will continue to be the recommended variety. V

## Spraying for Rust Control

OVER 60 years ago it was demonstrated that rust of cereal crops could be reduced by spraying with fungicides. It was soon recognized

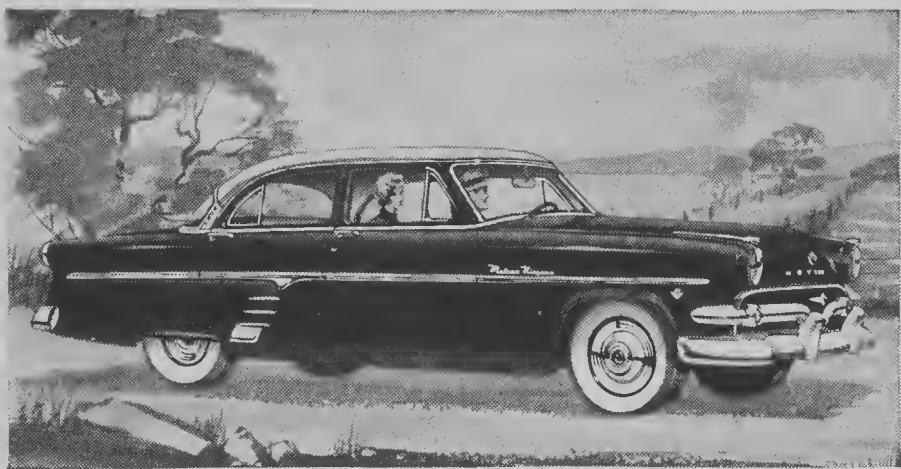


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\* Gasoline Price  
**DOWN**  
**12%**

\* Based on wholesale prices in principal cities. The wholesale price is what the oil company receives, and does not include provincial tax or dealer margin.

that breeding rust resistance into the cereal varieties was a more promising approach, and emphasis was switched to this line of research.

Work on chemical treatment of rust was continued. As rust narrows the gap by which the plant breeders stay ahead of it, the work with spraying takes on added importance.

Spraying with systemic fungicides is showing promise. These materials, absorbed by leaf or root, carry the rust poison into the plant system. The antibiotic acti-dione is being studied and its use as a systemic fungicide observed at the University of Alberta, by Dr. A. W. Henry, professor of Plant Pathology, and by Research Assistant G. A. Nelson. They have found that, even in very low concentrations, acti-dione will suppress germination of red rust spores. Problems now being considered are the finding of a media that will carry acti-dione into the plant tissues, and the determination of a concentration that will inhibit the rust fungus without damaging the cereal plant.

The scientists are attempting to retain the potency of the fungicide against the rust, and at the same time to reduce the toxic effect on the crop and increase the ease of movement of the fungicide in the plant tissues, so that all parts of the plant will be protected from rust. V

## The Right Oil For the Job

IT is important for the operator of high-priced machinery to know the different oils that are available, and when and where each oil should be used.

Mineral oil, often referred to as regular oil, is in the state in which it came from the refinery. The use of this oil is recommended under moderate operating conditions. It may be used for light-duty, cool-running engines, such as water-cooled, slow-operating pump engines.

Premium oil is the regular oil, with compounds added to give it special characteristics. The chemical compounds which are added, prevent oxidation of the oil, which in turn prevents the formation of corrosive acids. Premium oils are recommended for use in automobile engines, and others which are not under continuous heavy load.

Heavy-duty oil has the additives that are in premium oil, and in addition has detergent and dispersant characteristics. The term detergent refers to its ability to loosen deposits such as carbon from the interior of the engine. The lifting action of the oil on the carbon deposits is similar to the way soap lifts dirt. When an oil is described as having dispersant characteristics, it has the ability to keep foreign particles floating throughout the oil. This makes it possible to free the engine of foreign material by draining the oil out periodically and replacing it with clean oil.

Heavy-duty oil is recommended for use in diesel engines, air-cooled engines, and in engines which are under continuous heavy load. V



## HORTICULTURE



The farmstead of the late Adolf Heyer, with its abundance of trees, is his living memorial.

## The Late Adolf Heyer

ONE of the most widely known and respected horticulturists in the prairie provinces passed away on March 31, in the person of Adolf Heyer of Neville, Sask. The late Mr. Heyer was outstanding among amateur horticulturists for his memorable contribution to the development of hardy fruits through his introduction of the Heyer No. 12 apple and because of his contagious enthusiasm for prairie tree planting.

Born in Lunner, Norway, in 1875, Adolf Heyer migrated first to Missouri in 1904, then to Homestead in North Dakota in 1905, and shortly thereafter to Canada, where he homesteaded one and one-half miles from the town of Neville, southeast of Swift Current.

His tree planting at Neville began in 1909, and in 1913 his first seedling spruce were secured from Woodstock, Ontario. Since then, his principal plantings have consisted entirely of spruce, and during the following 14 years he planted thousands of seedlings, most of which he had grown himself.

By that time also, Adolf Heyer was an outstanding peony grower, and the time required to look after his horticultural plants, plus his enthusiasm about the possibility of growing trees under the open prairie conditions of southwestern Saskatchewan, led him to seed a large part of his farm down to grass in 1928, so that he could devote his entire time to work with his trees.

Today, southwestern Saskatchewan is dotted with plantations of trees, the planting of which was inspired by visits to the Heyer farm.

He was a quiet, unassuming, courteous and kindly bachelor. If he became widely known and as widely respected, it was because of his character and his achievements, rather than because of any desire or effort on his part to seek popularity in any way.

## How to Plant Gladiolus

IF you would like to grow gladioli successfully, don't plant any corms less than three-quarters of an inch in diameter. Those you can buy at bargain prices are usually smaller than this minimum size.

The gladiolus doesn't seem to like being mixed up with other flowers in the perennial or annual borders. When planted this way, they do not seem to make the same strong, sturdy growth, according to D. F. Cameron of the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. When planted in rows they can be cultivated, fertilized and, if necessary, staked.

Make sure that the corms of the gladiolus have been treated for thrip. This is a small insect which will ruin the spikes of gladioli in a very short time. If you buy good corms they have probably been treated before you buy them, but if they have not, soak them in a solution of Lysol for six hours, using one teaspoonful in a quart of water.

You can plant glads in rows 24 inches apart, if you hand-cultivate them, but if not, the rows should be 36 inches apart or more.

## Planting The Garden

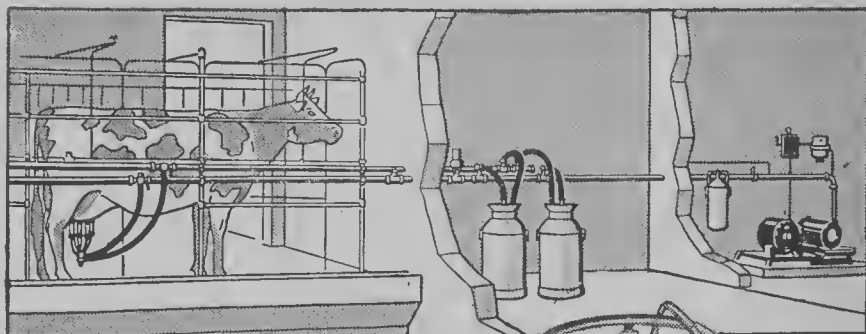
VEGETABLES are like people and all other things in nature—they differ. They differ not only in appearance, and in the way they taste, but in their requirements for growth as well.

The Experimental Farm at Brandon calls attention to the fact that some like warm growing conditions in which to germinate, while others germinate better in cold soil. This is probably because our vegetables have come to us from many different climates and belong to several of the plant families.

Whatever their peculiarities and preferences, he or she is a wise gardener who pays attention to them. Failure to do this usually means a crop of poor quality; and there are few products of the farm less appetizing than poorly grown vegetables.

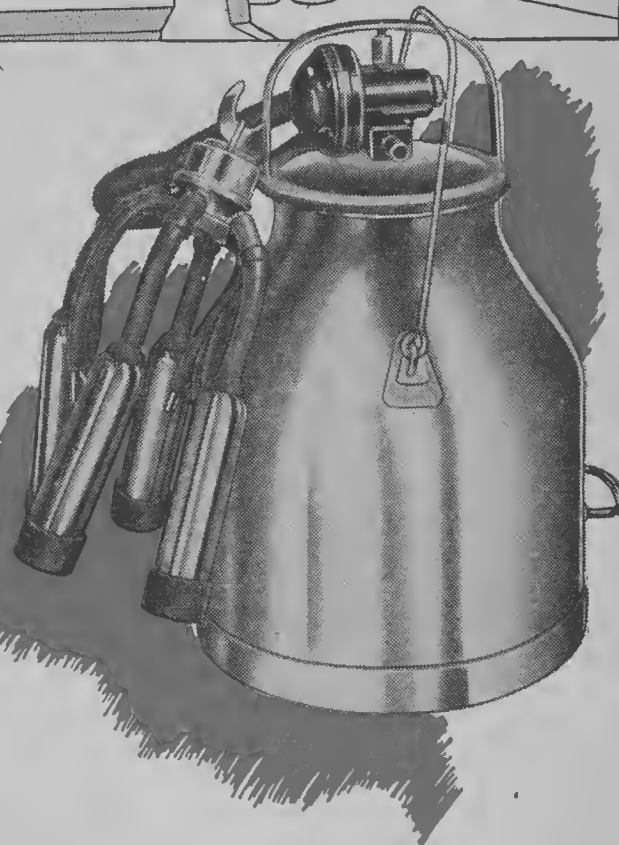
Vegetables such as lettuce, onions, spinach, carrots and parsnips will have been planted before May 15, because they are among the most frost-resistant vegetables when in the seedling stage. Generally, they thrive under cool growing conditions, say the Brandon folks, and some of them, like carrots and parsnips need a long season to develop. Beets, cabbage, cauliflower, peas, radish and turnips

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## HORTICULTURE

are moderately resistant to frost and are also sown before the middle of May, as a rule.

With so many vegetables it is safe to plant before the 24th of May, one wonders why this date is the traditional garden planting day. Perhaps it is because it is more or less in the middle of the garden-planting season. Potatoes are usually planted about this time, or just a few days before, and so is corn. The 24th is about the best time for sowing beans and, of course cucumbers, pumpkins and squash should not be planted until then, with melons coming along a week later and tomatoes and peppers in early June. ✓

### Storing

#### Strawberry Plants

NOT many farmers have cold storages where they can store strawberry plants in the spring, but the experimental station at Saanichton, B.C., conducted an interesting experiment, which indicates that it is possible to hold strawberry plants for a surprising length of time under certain conditions.

Last year the station dug plants on February 28 and held them in storage for four, six and eight weeks before planting. When each lot was taken from storage to be planted, a corresponding lot was dug up from the runner bed and planted at the same time. The planting was done on April 1, April 15, and April 30, which is, of course, much earlier than would be possible in normal years on the prairies.

The stored plants did equally as well as those which were dug and planted at once. The secret was that when in storage, the roots of the strawberry plants were surrounded by peat moss to hold the moisture, and the plants were closely packed, which also helped to prevent evaporation. ✓

### Have You

#### Any Cutworms?

NOT many field and garden crops escape attack by cutworms at some time in the spring. They love horticultural crops, whether vegetable or flower seedlings, or seedlings of shrubs and trees, young shoots from corms or bulbs, and perennials.

Those that are found in the spring are fleshy, soft-bodied, dull-colored, hairless caterpillars, says H. McDonald, entomologist at the Insect Laboratory, Saskatoon. When you disturb them, they usually curl up and stay quiet. They get to be one and one-half to two inches long, and they feed at or just below the surface of the soil where they do the most damage, either by severing the shoots completely, or damaging them so badly that they fall over.

They come to the surface at night and the most convenient way of finishing them off is to feed them poison bran bait. This is easily prepared by taking a gallon of bran, two tablespoonfuls of paris green, and moistening the mixture with about one and one-half to two pints of water. Be sure to mix the bran and paris green together thoroughly first, adding the water slowly while stirring the

mixture. When right, it should be moist enough that when you squeeze a handful, the moisture will ooze between the fingers.

In Saskatchewan, says Dr. McDonald, chlordane and chlorinated camphene are better poisons than paris green, for the red-backed cutworm. Instead of the paris green use not less than three tablespoonfuls or one and one-half fluid ounces of 40 per cent chlordane emulsion, or four and one-half tablespoonfuls or two and one-quarter fluid ounces of a 50 per cent emulsion of chlorinated camphene. With these products, however, mix the water and the liquid poison thoroughly together, then stir into the bran as above.

Spread the fresh bait just before dark on a warm evening, preferably when the temperature is 60° F, or higher. Scatter the bait thinly and uniformly, and the quantities above will cover about 400 square yards without any danger to livestock, poultry or pets. When the ground is damp, the cutworms come to the surface more readily, so that soon after a rain is an excellent time to put out the bait. ✓

### Give Tomatoes

#### A Chance

TOMATO plants at Lethbridge can be transplanted to the garden as early as the last week in May, or the first part of June, if one is sure that the danger of frost is over. So says G. A. Kemp, horticulturist at the Experimental Station. At Morden, however, "soon after June 10," is considered a better time for most prairie districts. There is a difference of a week or more between these and the most southern prairie areas, but the gardener will have to go by his or her own experience. Of course, if hotkaps or hot tents are used, which are reinforced plant protectors, it is possible to stretch out the growing season by planting a week or two earlier. Morden says that tomato plants in experimental plots set out on May 15 and covered with protectors, ripened as many as a third more fruits than those transplanted at the usual time. Hotkaps are used only for the smaller plants up to five inches in height, but hot tents are good for plants ten to fifteen inches tall. If you use these, be sure to cut a two-inch-square hole for ventilation on the side of the plant away from the wind. This lets the excessive heat or moisture out on hot days, but also means that if cold weather or severe frost should threaten, a second hot tent should be placed over the first.

Tomatoes like lots to eat. An Ontario Department of Agriculture bulletin about tomatoes for commercial production says that there is no factor which affects tomato yields that is more important than soil fertility, and that a good combination of manure and fertilizers is necessary to ensure a heavy and profitable crop. For example, where 600 pounds of fertilizer were used per acre, the crop was 8.7 tons of tomatoes; where 785 pounds of fertilizer were used, 9 tons were harvested; and 1,230 pounds per acre brought a harvest of 10.8 tons. So feed the plants in the garden well. ✓



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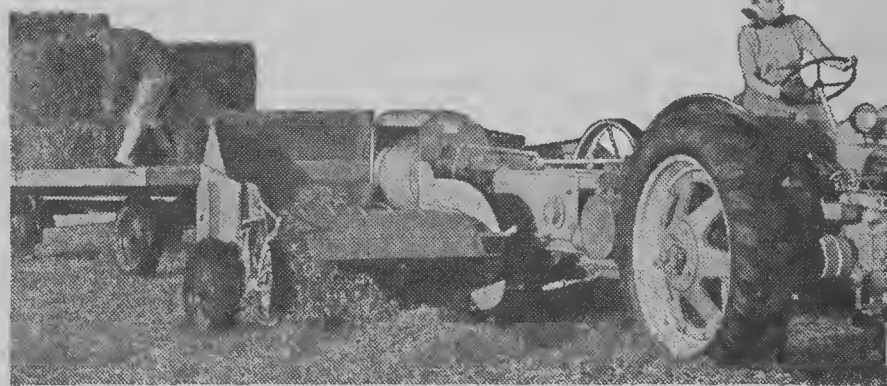


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## POULTRY

### Prepare for Poultry Show

*Early chicks will be ready for the fall shows*

THERE are several ways of picking out your birds, to be ready for the keen competition at the poultry shows this fall. One is to watch them feeding, and pick out the best ones. If they are quiet, catch them and slip a leg band on, after looking for disqualifications. Another surer method is to handle each bird on the roost at night, noting and marking the ones that are broad and deep with well-rounded breasts, and straight, reasonably long keel bones. Next day, select from this smaller group those birds that carry the best feather coloring, watching for general defects. Familiarize yourself with the requirements of your own breed. Write the Extension Service or ask your local agricultural representative for information, if you are not sure of the general qualifications. You will find them most helpful.

In judging utility or production classes, more emphasis is placed on "production ability," and not quite as much on fine feathering, as in exhibition classes of standard-bred birds. Birds for utility classes should have healthy, vigorous bodies, free from disqualifications. The head is particularly important, as it shows the type and vigor of the bird. In group classes, uniformity of size, color and type is important.

Dressed poultry shows are usually held in November or early December. It is well to purchase chicks and turkey poults early enough to have them matured and finished by show time. At the dressed poultry show, consumers like to preview the fowl dinners to come. Many like to purchase their birds then, so it pays to let them see many properly fattened and attractively-dressed birds—Rhoda Petypiece, Man.

### Changing Poultry Market

CANADA needs more evisceration facilities, because consumers prefer to buy their chickens and turkeys ready to cook, says the Poultry Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. Large retailers are now demanding eviscerated poultry, especially turkeys for the Christmas trade, where the demand for the birds so prepared far exceeds the supply.

While the Poultry Division states that eviscerating capacity in Canada has been steadily increasing and is around 700,000 pounds per day, it is insufficient to take care of the needs during the period from November 15 to the latter part of December.

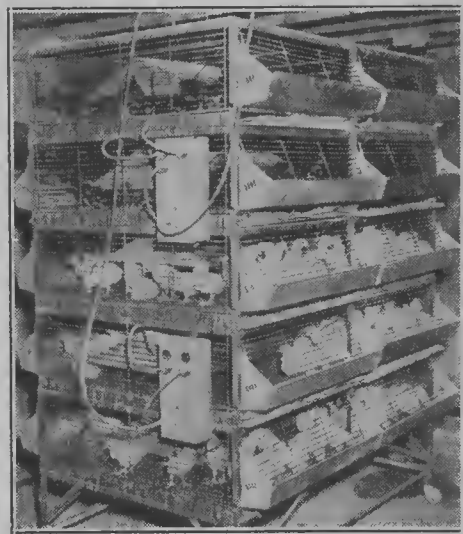
The poultry industry is beginning to play a large part in encouraging the sale of poultry products, and the Poultry Products Institute of Canada reported at its annual meeting that \$18,683 was raised during the past year to finance the Institute's efforts.

More intensive promotional releases, cooking demonstrations, merchandising schools and recipe booklets were planned for the coming year. The Institute plans to establish standards for hand-

ling poultry and eggs in retail outlets, with an Institute "Seal of Approval" to be awarded to retailers having the equipment for the proper handling of poultry and eggs.

### Spring Poultry Pasture

FROM the time birds are well feathered until they are ready for the laying, or fattening pens, they can be reared economically on good green range, entirely separated from adult stock, says the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture. Clean range



*Healthy chicks from the brooder will make good use of pasture.*

means ground that did not have chicks on it the previous year. Range shelters can be used for the pullets and portable brooder houses for the cockerels. The Department recommends allowing at least one acre of pasture for each 200 birds.

Alfalfa is one of the best crops for summer pasture if it can be grown successfully, because it is the most nutritious of all. Brome grass, orchard grass, creeping red fescue, and Kentucky blue grass are others that will supply good pasture when seeded in mixtures, for poultry.

To get maximum use from a pasture, it can be divided into two or more plots and the birds rotated from plot to plot regularly, moving the shelters and brooder houses, water fountains and feed troughs with them.

### Plan Your Program

HERE are a few suggestions put forth by a poultry expert which, if carried out, should result in more profits from the flock. How many of these have you planned to carry out yourself?

House chicks in disinfected quarters, allowing a half square foot of floor space per chick, up to eight weeks, and one square foot after eight weeks. Keep the temperature at 95 degrees for starting chicks under the brooder, and give them enough room to eat—about 100 inches feeder space and two gallons of water capacity, per 100 baby chicks. Double the feeder space after eight



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Turkey Poults - Ducklings - Goslings  
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All chicks 100% Canadian R.O.P. Sired. Canadian  
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Automatic Level-Ride!  
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Level-Ride takes weight  
off of one hip while plow-  
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dred thousand in use. Frame only \$24.00 (add 10%  
Canada). For most all makes of tractors. See your  
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1954  
48-PAGE  
CATALOG



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Use M-T Applicator with elastic bands  
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Fulltime salesman, with car, wanted now. For par-  
ticulars write: Circulation Department, 10359 Jasper  
Ave., Edmonton.

## POULTRY

weeks, allowing chicks a starting and  
growing mash, free choice.

Plan good outdoor range for the  
growing pullets, and build and use a  
poultry disposal pit. Vaccinate chicks  
against diseases such as Newcastle if  
these are a problem in your com-  
munity. House pullets in a well-  
cleaned, disinfected house, when, or  
just before, they begin to lay. V

## Prevent Picking

A FEW weeks after hatching, some  
chicks lose their friendliness to  
other chicks and take a fancy for the  
toes and tails of the other chicks in-  
stead. This could lead to trouble and  
loss, if it isn't noticed early enough,  
but the picking can be stopped. First  
step is to give the raw parts a dress-  
ing of pine tar or some commercial  
anti-pick preparation, points out the  
experimental station at Harrow,  
Ontario.

Like the cat, it is curiosity that kills  
the chicks in such cases. Any contrast  
made by one color against another  
calls for an investigation by them,  
apparently to see if the object is good  
enough to eat. Often this occurs when  
feathers begin to form on the young  
birds, and if the picking begins to  
get out of hand it can often be  
checked by tacking red tissue paper  
over the windows, to give everything  
in the building a red glow.

This picking is bound to be more  
frequent when the birds are over-  
crowded in the pens, if they are too  
warm, or if there is too little ventila-  
tion. These, again, are reasons for  
taking extra care with young birds. V

## Rations Influence Egg Quality

EGGS as a food are rich in proteins,  
minerals and vitamins, but the  
Brandon Experimental Farm points  
out that egg quality is affected to a  
large extent by the feeding, care and  
management of the flock.

A good ration, officials there sug-  
gest, will include equal parts of wheat,  
oats and barley, as whole grains fed  
at a rate of 12 pounds per 100 birds  
daily. For the dry mash, a laying con-  
centrate mixed with crushed grains in  
the proportions recommended by the  
feed manufacturer should be fed. A  
clean supply of fresh water should al-  
ways be in front of the birds, for water  
makes up two-thirds of the total con-  
tent of the egg.

To retain egg production, once the  
eggs are laid, they suggest a plentiful  
supply of clean litter in the nests and  
on the floor, and ample nesting space  
for the birds. Poultrymen are warned  
against washing eggs, and advised, in-  
stead, to remove any dirt by brushing  
lightly with steel wool, or fine sand-  
paper.

Gathering eggs three times a day  
will prevent quality loss from high  
temperatures in summer. Wire baskets  
for collecting the eggs allow plenty of  
air circulation, and if storage is in a  
cool cellar, or ice house, facilitate rapid  
cooling. Finally, it is suggested that  
eggs be packed large end uppermost,  
in clean cases, flats or fillers, to prevent  
soiling or the development of mold. V

## Turnall SIDING SHINGLES



# Surf Shades

FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY

FATHOM  
GREEN

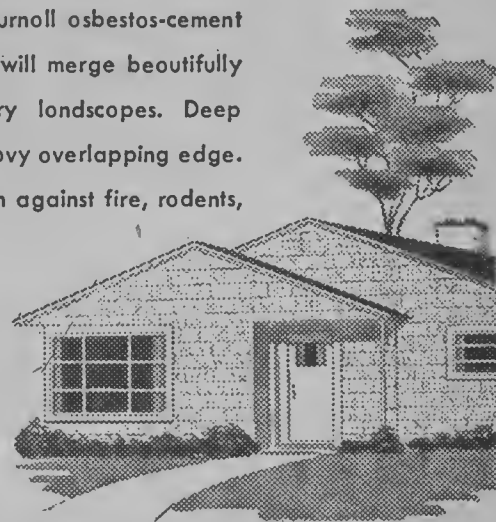
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SEA GULL  
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Here's beauty and protection against fire, rodents,  
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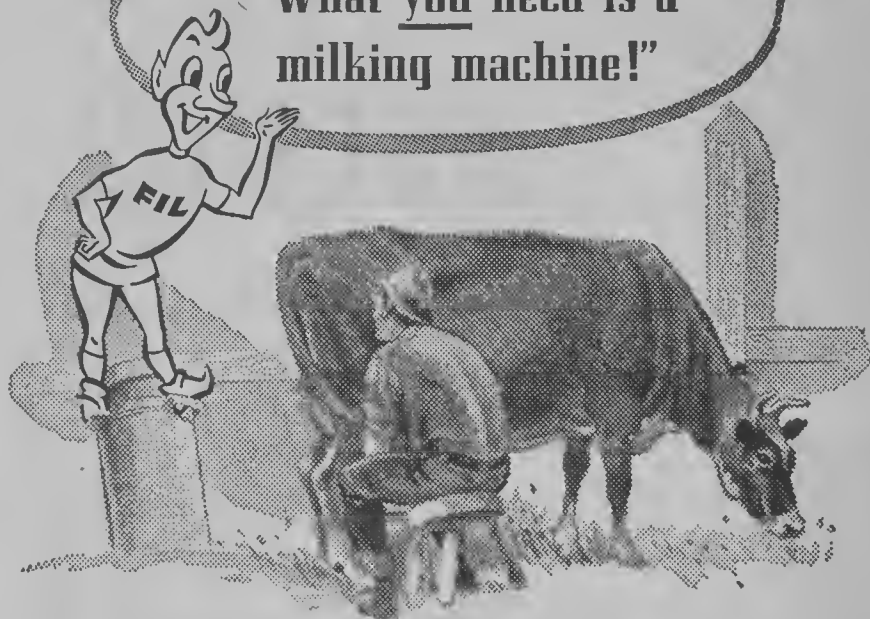
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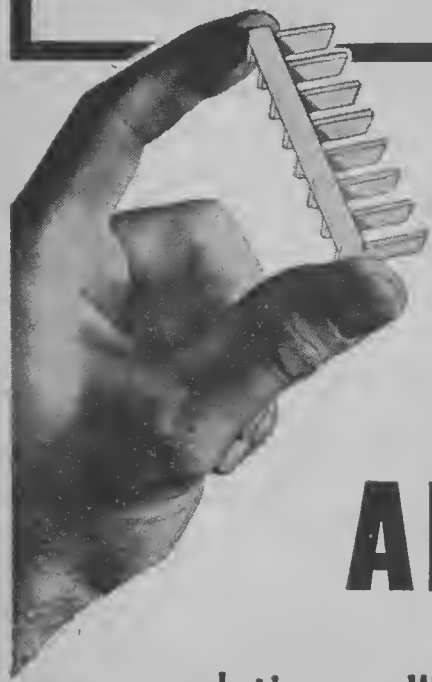
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SD103

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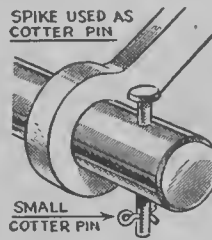
WILLARD STORAGE BATTERY CO. OF CANADA, LTD., TORONTO, ONTARIO

## WORKSHOP

### Spring Shop Ideas

*Handy things to make in the shop on rainy spring days when you can't get into the field*

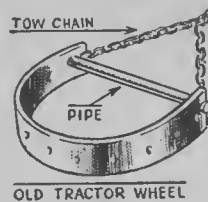
**Emergency Cotter Pin.** Being in need of an extra large cotter pin and not having one handy, I made one out of a common spike. After the spike was cut off to the proper length, I drilled a one-eighth-inch hole through it and slipped a small cotter pin through, as shown.—H.E.F. ✓



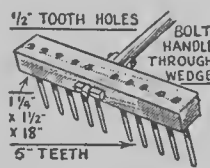
**Rebuilding Worn Plowshares.** When plowshares are badly worn they can be built up with an electric welder. Mild steel rod is satisfactory, but if "hard surfacer" is used they will last two or three times as long between sharpenings. It is important to apply hard surface smoothly, as it is difficult to grind away any roughness. I apply the welding to the edge of the share when it is dull, and heat, hammer and temper in the usual way.—J.E.H. ✓



**Road Float.** Split an old steel tractor wheel and spread it as shown in the illustration. Steady the open end by putting a pipe between and a rod through it, and tighten with nuts on each end of the rod. If hauled on a loose road with a tractor, the soil will pile up in front of it and fill holes.—G.T., Alta. ✓



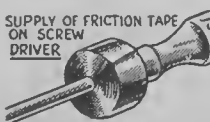
**Handy Hay Rake.** I made a hay rake, as shown. All the parts were made of hardwood. The handle is wedged from the front with two wedges, and bolted. The teeth are driven in tightly, and held with small finishing nails. This makes a very useful large hand rake.—J.R.I., B.C. ✓



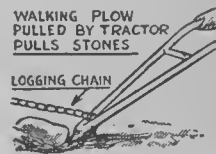
**Novel Thermos.** I made a coffee carrier from a pair of discarded felt socks. I cut one off just above the ankle, and, from the other one, cut two round pieces to fit the ends. One I sewed on the bottom, as shown, and hinged the other at the top. A child's sock will fit a quart sealer.—Mrs. A.W., Sask. ✓



**Friction Tape Holder.** If you are going to do some wiring the best place to keep your friction tape is around the shank of your screwdriver. Tear a length off a roll, and place it as shown.—A.B., Sask. ✓



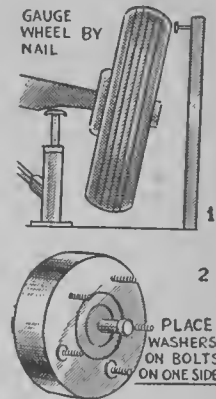
**Plow Stone Puller.** I converted a discarded walking plow into a very good stone puller. The plow is hooked to a tractor with a logging chain and one person guides it under the stone to be pulled while the other drives the tractor. It works equally well without the share.—J.I.R. ✓



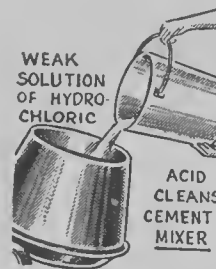
**Paint Can Holder.** The next time you paint a wall and have trouble holding the paint can, try using a large C-clamp and fasten it to the ladder as shown. Not only is a clamp superior to a wire hook, but it can be moved easily as the work progresses.—H.E.F. ✓



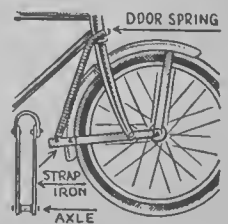
**Wobbling Wheel.** I bent an axle on my trailer, and found that one of the wheels wobbled. To correct it I jacked the damaged side, drove a stake into the ground, as shown, and turned the wheel until the top almost touched the nail. I marked the bottom studs, then took off the wheel and put washers on the marked studs, before putting the wheel back on. With a little experimenting I had the wheel running true.—H.E.F. ✓



**Cleaning Cement Mixer.** I was troubled by cement which had caked in my mixer and I was unable to get it well cleaned out by chipping. I bought half a gallon of hydrochloric acid, mixed it with seven or eight parts of water, and put it into the mixer. When there was no longer any fizzing action I put in another batch of the mixture. At this strength it did not damage the metal, though I did take the precaution of smearing beaters and thin parts with cup grease.—I.W.D. ✓



**Well Sprung Bicycle.** An arrangement as shown in the illustration made my bicycle easier to ride. The arms of the strap irons are 18 inches long, and the holes where the fork attaches are four inches from the axle connection. Strong screen door springs provide the necessary tension.—D.I.G. ✓



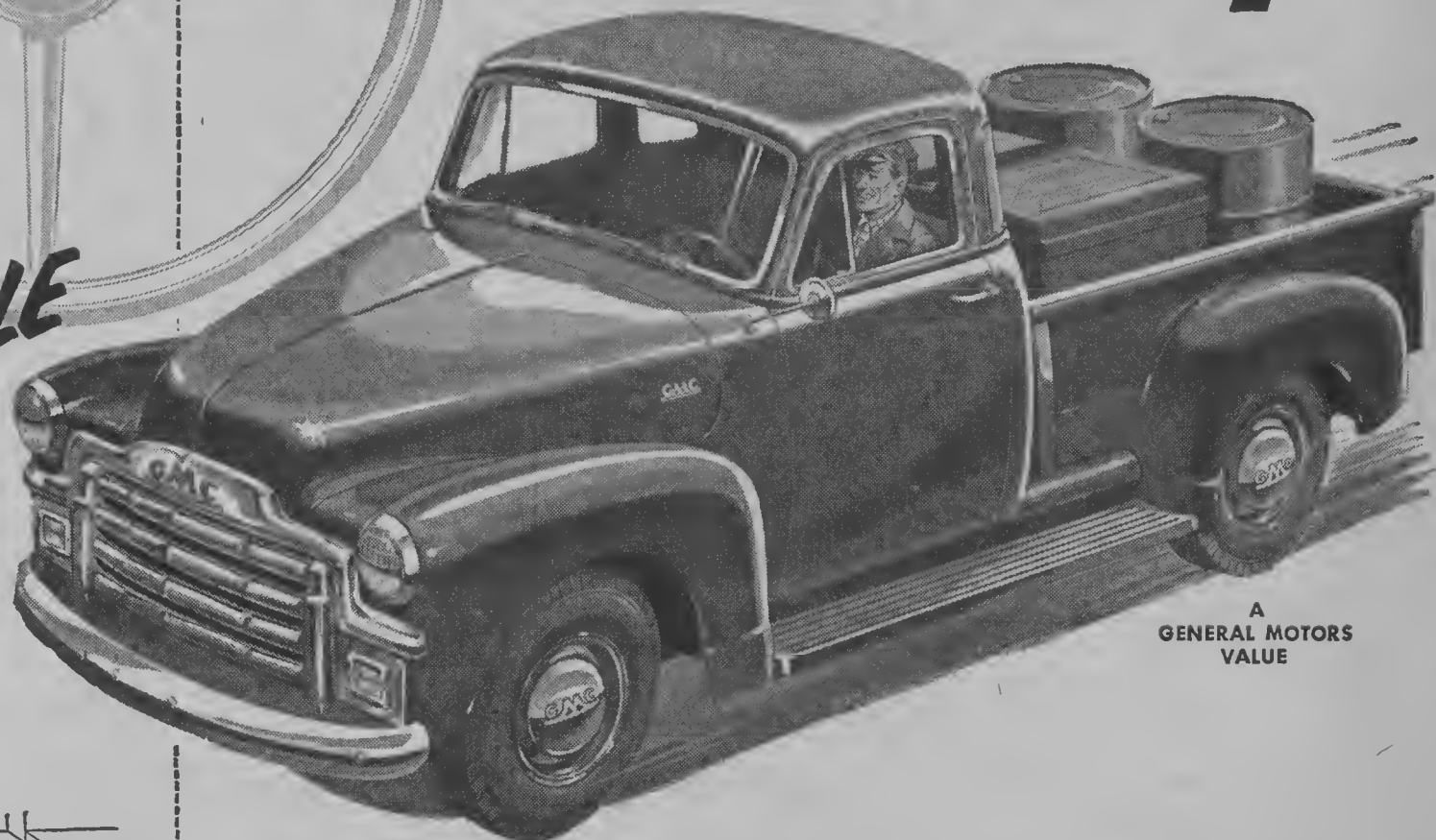


# GO GMC

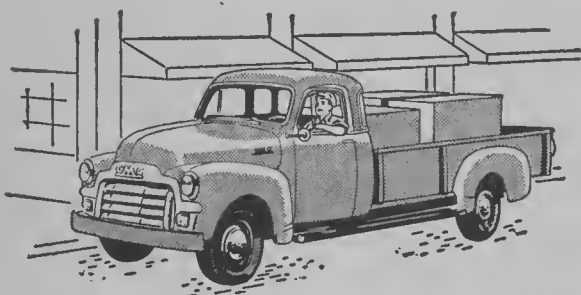
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NEW HYDRA-MATIC  
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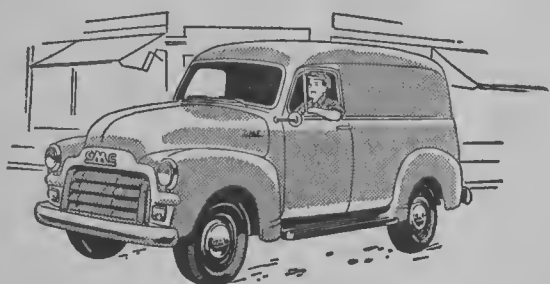
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in 1/2-3/4  
and 1 Ton  
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GMC ONE-TON PICK-UP brings you the famous Hydro-Matic Drive\* to speed your hauls with clutchless ease in the city or around the farm. Newly designed standard transmissions are also available. Another great plus this year is larger grain-tight boxes with lower loading heights and wedge-type latching tailgate.



GMC PANEL—Hydro-Matic Drive\* now puts modern simplicity of operation into all panel trucks—helping to greatly reduce driving fatigue and engine wear. Improved 3- or 4-speed standard transmission is also available on all panels.

**Headline truck news** for 1954 is GMC automatic transmissions. No one else offers them in such a wide range of time-proven, completely automatic transmissions to fill different needs in so many weight classes.

These facts alone would be reason enough for buying GMC, but there are more than 70 brilliantly new features in the more than 50 models. There's the widest choice of powerful diesel and gasoline engines on the market, and also the widest choice of transmissions and axles. There's the Comfort-master Cab, Ride Control Seat\*, One-piece Windshield, Grain-tight Boxes—just to name a few of the many modern features. There's more power, increased dependability, new safety, new comfort. Every one of GMC's great features this year, in one way or another, is planned to put more profit in your business.

See your GMC Dealer—and find out all that's new in GMC. You'll see many of the features you've been waiting for, in a model that exactly fits your requirements.

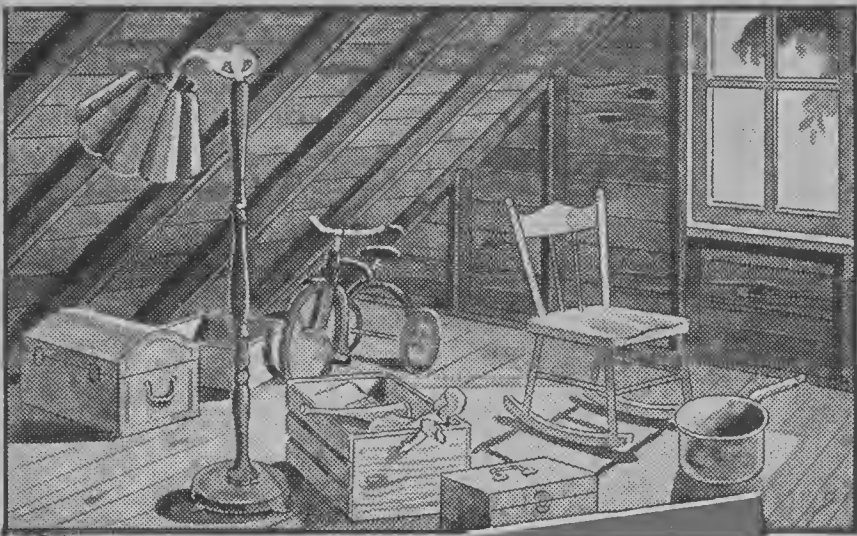
\*Extra cost option

**MORE THAN 50 NEW MODELS...  
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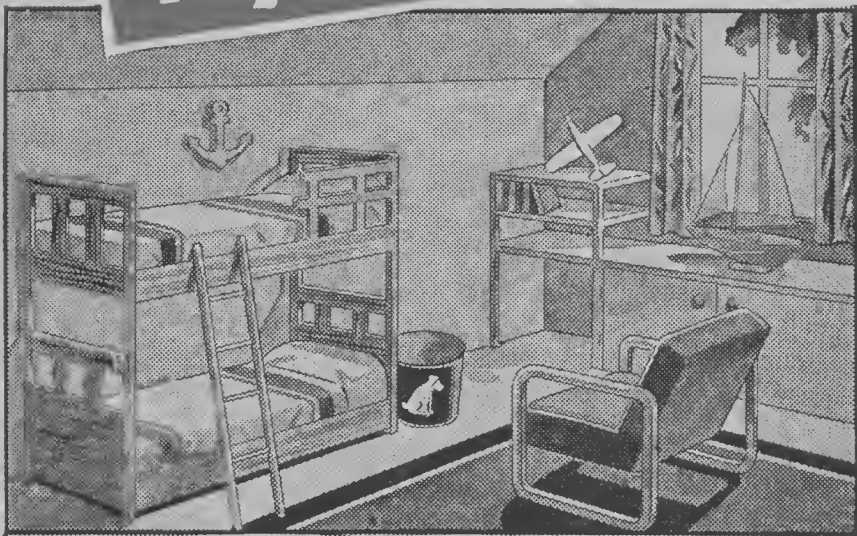
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"Here's a  
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**Which one  
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If it's the top one, why not do something about it soon! You can easily turn that space into a smart bedroom, den or playroom, by using **STONEBORD**, the *fireproof* wallboard.

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## FARM YOUNG PEOPLE

### Try a Forestry Project

*Plan to make more use of trees in your district in the years to come, by means of a club project*

A CLUB forestry project differs greatly from a project with livestock, or field crops, because the growth of trees takes so many years. However, a well-planned project can create real interest among club members and show young farmers how valuable trees can be on Canadian farms.

The United States Department of Agriculture suggests that the first step in such a project is to carry out a community survey to determine the kind of woodlands which can be found, and the use that is being made of them. Club members might draw a map of the district, locating the homes and farms of different families, the acreage of each farm, and the location of the buildings. Then, a sketch of the wooded areas will show where trees are being put to use in the district.

Further information will help, too, such as the use that is being made of individual plantings, the commercial value of the trees, the timber products that have been sold and the prices received for them. Many uses for the trees will be discovered. They are needed on farms to protect the soil against erosion, and to shelter livestock and crops against dry winds of summer and the cold of winter. Well arranged, they beautify the farmstead, provide a nesting place for many birds, and often shelter a colorful flower garden that could not be grown without them. They provide homes for wild animals too, and can often be used as a source of timber for farm buildings, or as wood for winter fuel. They contribute to man's comfort in many ways.

Members of any club interested in trees should learn to identify those present in their community. For example, the leaf is the trade-mark of the tree, so leaves can be gathered, studied, and compared, to gain first-hand knowledge. Fruits of the trees can be gathered, too, whether they are in the form of fleshy fruits, nuts, berries, pods, winged seeds, or cones.

Buds too can be used to identify trees and these can be gathered and labelled. Bark from trees helps to identify them, and since each tree has its own way of branching, rough sketches of the shape of each can be made by a careful observer. While studying, members will learn that trees prefer certain localities. Some like low, damp soil, while others might prefer to be on higher, well-drained land. Soon it will become apparent that certain trees "hobnob" together, because of similar requirements of soil moisture and light.

To illustrate how trees grow, a cross-section of a tree stem will show the annual rings, heartwood, sapwood, bark and cambium. To show how trees reproduce themselves, a collection of seed specimens can be mounted on cardboard, or placed in bottles and studied. A field trip might be arranged to show the actual protective effects

of shelterbelts and forests, and pictures gathered of eroded hillsides and fields.

A short-term forestry project can be developed that will capture the interest of the young people who are working at it, if it is kept local and practical in application. For example, a project to replant a woodland and care for it, might be carried out. Planting trees on eroding lands, or other waste ground on the farm, can provide a worthwhile project, while special attention to proper cutting of trees and removal of the parts of the trees not marketed, can make the members more aware of the value of forest management. A study and survey of forest fires, insect enemies and diseases of the common trees can provide another slant on the opportunities presented by forestry work.

If a wood-product factory is located in the district, an interesting trip might be arranged to study the various processes which turn the wood into a usable form, whether as lumber for farm buildings, or furniture for the finest homes.

### 4-H Movement Grows

LIKE such groups as Boy Scouts, 4-H club work is a large international movement and now embraces rural youth in 26 countries. Canadian membership is at an all-time high, standing at 65,215 young people in 1953, which is a three-fold gain from 1931 when 21,142 young people were members of the clubs. During those years, livestock and poultry clubs continued to attract more members than any other, increasing from 10,935 members to 23,630. Most substantial gains, however, were made by both horticulture, and home economics



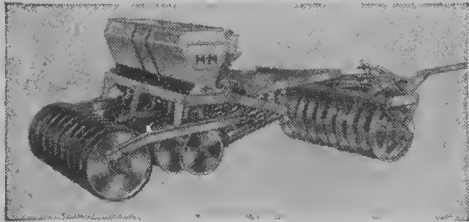
*Calf clubs are among the most popular.*

clubs. The former boast 9,857 members now although numbering only 1,300 in 1931. Home economics clubs now number 18,215 members, in place of the 4,478 they had in the earlier year.

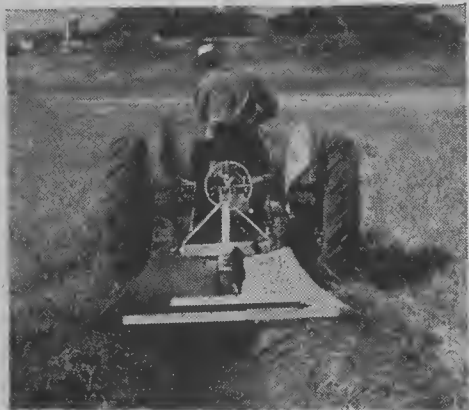


## WHAT'S NEW

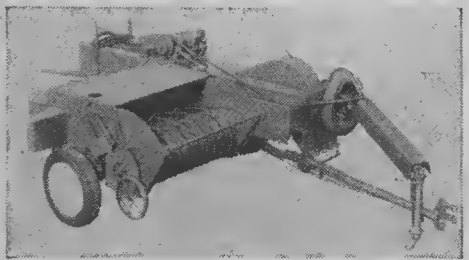
For further information about any item mentioned in this column, write to What's New Department, The Country Guide, 290 Vaughan St., Winnipeg, giving the key number shown in parenthesis at the end of each item, as—(17).



This new plow drill, with packer, drill, and press wheels, is designed for use with three or four bottom plows, and to plow, pack, seed and cover in one operation. It is available either with lever lift, or power lift. (Minneapolis-Moline of Canada Ltd.) (31) ✓



This ditcher for tractors with three-point hitch systems, is said to do an excellent job of cleaning out old ditches, or constructing new ones. It is a one-man operation, and digs a ditch up to five feet wide and 27 inches deep. (Eversman Mfg. Co.) (32) ✓



This new power-take-off baler is designed especially for farmers growing small acreage of hay, who want a machine with high capacity. It is said to be capable of making six bales a minute or seven tons an hour. (New Holland Machine Co.) (33) ✓



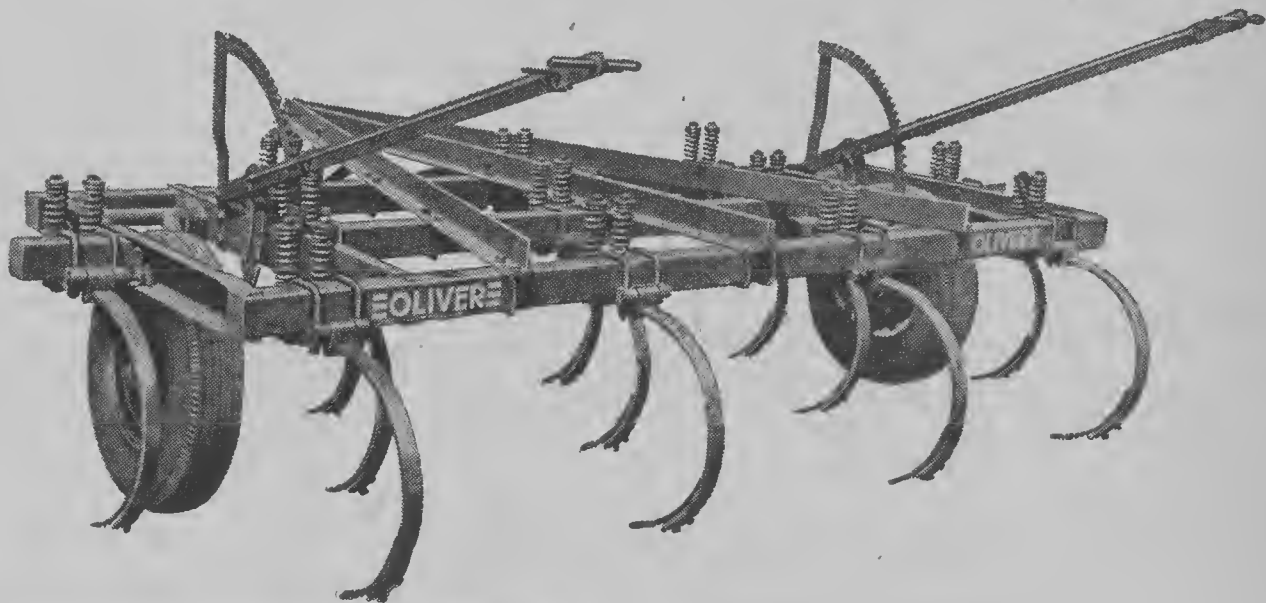
This trussless building gets its strength from the two-foot-wide, slightly-arched steel frames, and can be erected in only a few hours by several persons, says the manufacturer. It can be made in any length and in a variety of sizes. (Wonder Building Corporation.) (34) ✓

NEW

MULTI-PURPOSE

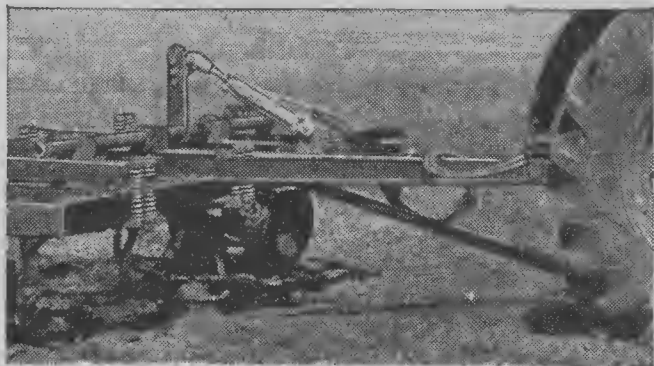
OLIVER CHISEL PLOW

BOOSTS YIELDS, KILLS WEEDS

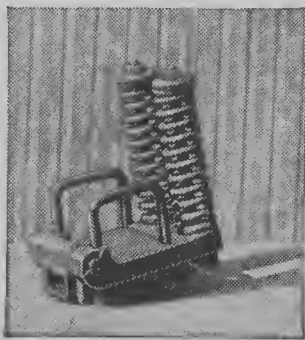
MORE JOBS—  
BETTER PRACTICES

- ☆ Saves Precious Moisture
- ☆ Cultivates, Kills Weeds
- ☆ Mulches, Reduces Erosion
- ☆ Summer Fallows
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**MONTHLY**

### Cut Requested in I.W.A. Quota

Sweden has decided not to ratify the International Wheat Agreement and Italy has applied to the International Wheat Council for a reduction in her quota, Trade Minister C. D. Howe told the House of Commons at Ottawa on April 9. In referring to Sweden's decision not to ratify the Agreement, he pointed out that that country never has been a large importer of wheat and is an actual exporter in the current crop year, having exported some seven or eight million bushels.

The Minister stated that Italy did not ratify the Agreement owing to a change in government and, while she has not yet ratified, she has given no indication of not intending to do so. She has asked for a reduction of her I.W.A. quota of 31 million bushels; if the Wheat Council grants the reduction the Minister understood she would sign the Agreement.

Trade sources suggest that Egypt is another country which will need to import very little wheat during the next few months. Stocks in the hands of the government are said to be sufficient to meet domestic needs until the end of July. Since the new crop will be available in June it is expected that supplies will be sufficient to meet requirements until near the end of 1954.

The Egyptian guaranteed quota under I.W.A. is 14,697,000 of which less than two million bushels has been taken up. There has been no suggestion that she will ask for a reduction in her quota. Under the terms of I.W.A., importing countries are required to take their guaranteed quantities only if and when the price drops to the minimum of \$1.55 per bushel. To date the U.S. has been the sole supplier of Egyptian needs.

### U.S. Restricts Rye Imports

For the first time the United States has imposed limitations on imports of rye, rye flour and rye meal into that country. On the final day of March President Eisenhower issued a proclamation which limits imports of these products from all countries to a maximum of 550,000 bushels between April 1 and June 30, and to 3,300,000 bushels between July 1 and June 30, 1955.

The import restrictions were put into effect upon the recommendation of the U.S. Tariff Commission. In one respect the President modified the Commission's recommendations—rather than enforce continuing restrictions as the Commission suggested, he provided for the termination of the quota on June 30, 1955. This, in effect, means that the Commission must re-investigate the situation and the President must again consider its recommendations before the restrictions on rye imports can be continued beyond the termination date.

Issued under Section 22 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, the President's proclamation was considered necessary in order to prevent rye imports from interfering with the domestic price support program. This was the procedure followed in imposing restrictions on imports of Canadian oats into the United States.

American imports of Canadian rye have been particularly heavy during the current crop year and have coincided with higher domestic production. The situation has appeared to be more acute because of the fact that a very high percentage of the 1953 American production has been placed under price support loans.

For several years the U.S. has been the largest importer of Canadian rye, taking an average of some three million bushels per year. However, due to an extremely large Canadian crop—28 million bushels last year—exports moving southward have been abnormally high. Up to April 14 of the current crop year the U.S. has taken 12.5 million bushels compared with 2.4 million bushels during the same period a year ago.

### U.S. Programs to Aid Farm Exports

The decline in overseas markets for U.S. agricultural products, a huge increase in the quantities available for consumption and a sharp rise in Commodity Credit Corporation crop investment have convinced the United States administration of the necessity of taking firm steps to alleviate the situation.

The Community Credit Corporation had an investment of loans and inventories of farm products of \$6,370,887,000 as at February 28, over \$3.3 billion more than at the same date last year. During the first eight months of the current fiscal year, the C.C.C. experienced a net loss of \$158.6 million in carrying out the price support program, it is reported by the United States Department of Agriculture. Most of the loans total was accounted for principally by four commodities: \$1,034 million on wheat; \$584 million on corn; \$1,445 million on cotton, and \$283 million on tobacco. Loans and inventories of some of these commodities have increased substantially since February 28.

In an effort to aid in overcoming foreign market problems the United States has undertaken a number of special programs. Since the nature of the current problems may be of interest to Canadian readers a portion of the information contained in *Foreign Agriculture* of April 1954 is summarized below.

### Mutual Security Act, 1953

A section of the Mutual Security Act of 1953 provides that, of the funds appropriated for purposes of the Act, from \$100 million to \$250 million may be used to purchase U.S. surplus agricultural commodities to be exchanged for foreign currency. Procurement authorizations during 1954 have totalled \$100,060,000 worth of such commodities.

The Act provides that commodities moving to foreign markets must be in addition to those which would otherwise have been purchased from the United States or friendly countries as part of a normal trade pattern and that the sale prices must be consistent with maximum world levels. It provides also that foreign currency accumulated must be used by carrying out one or more of the purposes of the Mutual Security Act.



# COMMENTARY

## The Agricultural Act of 1949

Section 416 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 authorizes, under certain conditions, the donation of food commodities acquired through price support operations found to be in danger of loss through deterioration or spoilage. Donations of this type can only be made if the commodities cannot be disposed of in normal trade channels without impairing the price support program.

There are three possible outlets for commodities in this category: The Munitions Board and Federal agencies which wish to use food commodities in making payment for goods not produced in the United States, the school lunch program and private United States welfare organizations assisting needy persons outside the United States. While dairy products are the only surpluses now being made available for donation under this program, substantial quantities of dried eggs and Irish potatoes have been made available since the inception of the program in 1950.

## Commodity Credit Corporation Export Sales

Each month the Commodity Credit Corporation, the government's price support banker, issues two sales announcements showing what quantities of certain price support stocks are available for sale during the month and at what prices they are available. One list shows commodities available for either domestic or export use, while the other shows quantities and prices of commodities offered for export only. The latter are usually at lower prices.

The C.C.C. is also making sales at special prices of surplus stocks of dried milk solids to international relief organizations, private welfare bodies, and foreign governments for relief feeding and other supplemental uses. Approximately 100 million pounds have been sold for these purposes during the past six months.

The C.C.C. is authorized to accept strategic materials produced abroad in exchange for its holdings of agricultural commodities. More than \$74 million worth of such materials have been acquired in this manner up to the end of 1953. These materials have been or will be transferred to the national stockpile.

## Export Payments

The Department of Agriculture conducts certain programs to encourage exports of surplus commodities under what is known as Section 32. Under these programs the Department makes payments to private exporters on specified commodities exported to eligible countries. These payments enable sales to be made abroad at prices less than the U.S. market price. Export payments are presently in effect for fresh and processed oranges, grapefruit and certain other fruits.

In addition to Section 32 export payments, the International Wheat Agreement Act of 1949, as amended, authorizes the payment of export subsidies from C.C.C. funds. For some time such export payments applied

only to sales of wheat and flour under the International Wheat Agreement but more recently have been applied to wheat outside of I.W.A. sales.

## Miscellaneous Programs

A number of lesser programs, for the disposal of surplus food products abroad have been in effect from time to time.

The Famine Relief Program which expired March 15 of this year was designed to meet famine or other urgent relief needs abroad. During the period in which it was in operation 9,500 tons of wheat were shipped to Jordan, 72,000 tons of wheat to Bolivia and 2,200 tons of wheat to Libya.

The East German Feeding Program was carried out under Section 513 of the Mutual Security Act and involved the expenditure of approximately \$15 million on such items as wheat flour, vegetable oils, lard, dried beans, non-fat dry milk, evaporated milk, condensed milk, canned beef and raisins. Supplies were purchased by the Department of Agriculture and shipped for the Foreign Operations Administration. Also conducted under Section 513 of M.S.A. was the Christmas Package Program under which gifts were sent to less fortunate peoples in Western Germany, Spain, Italy and other European and Latin American countries. The distribution covered a total of 60,607,000 pounds of food at a total cost of \$11.8 million.

Further programs designed to assist in the disposal of surplus agricultural commodities are under consideration and have been dealt with in this column on previous occasions. V

## Agreement on Surplus Food Disposal

Reports of the first meeting of the Joint United States-Canadian Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs held in Washington on the 16th of March indicate agreement that neither country will resort to sales tactics which would result in a disruption of "normal commercial marketings" in order to dispose of surplus stocks of agricultural products. A joint communique issued after the meeting of certain Ministers of both countries stated that surplus food disposal should result in greater total consumption and should "augment and not displace normal quantities of agricultural products entering world trade."

The meeting recognized "that if surpluses were to be disposed of without regard to the impact on normal trade, great damage might be done not only to the commerce of Canada and the United States but also to world economy."

Canadian Trade Minister C. D. Howe later told the House of Commons at Ottawa that a U.S. gift of some 18 million bushels of wheat to Japan came under this category. He stated that the United States advised the Canadian Government of its intentions and asked if Canada had any objections to the deal. After Japan had made a satisfactory commitment for the purchase of Canadian wheat in 1954 and 1955 Canada advised the U.S. that she had no objections to proceeding with the gift. V

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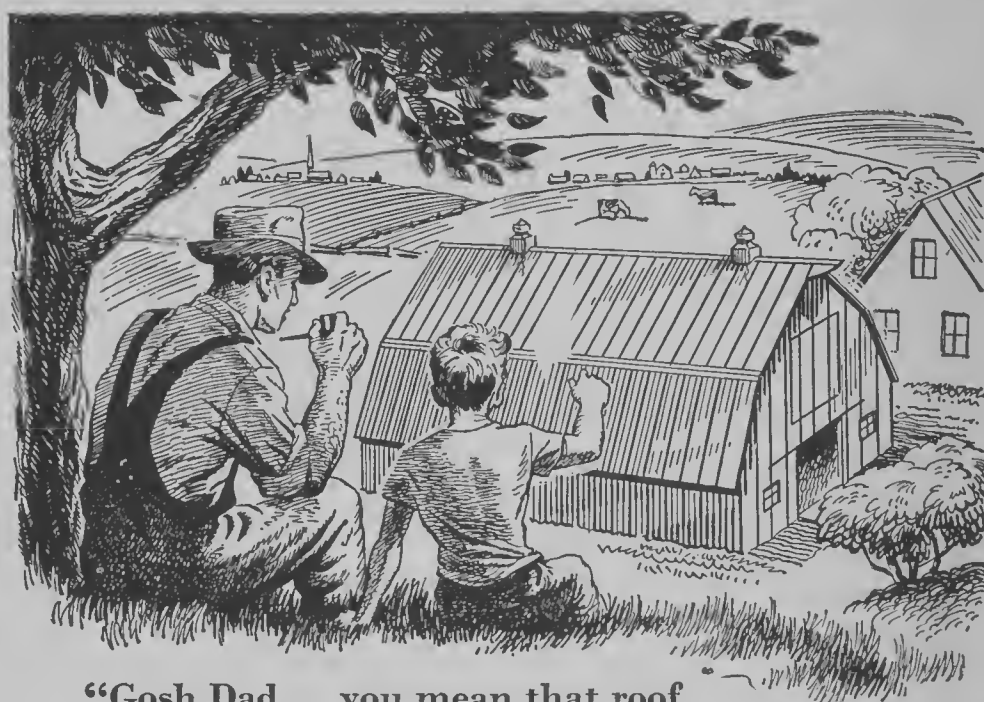
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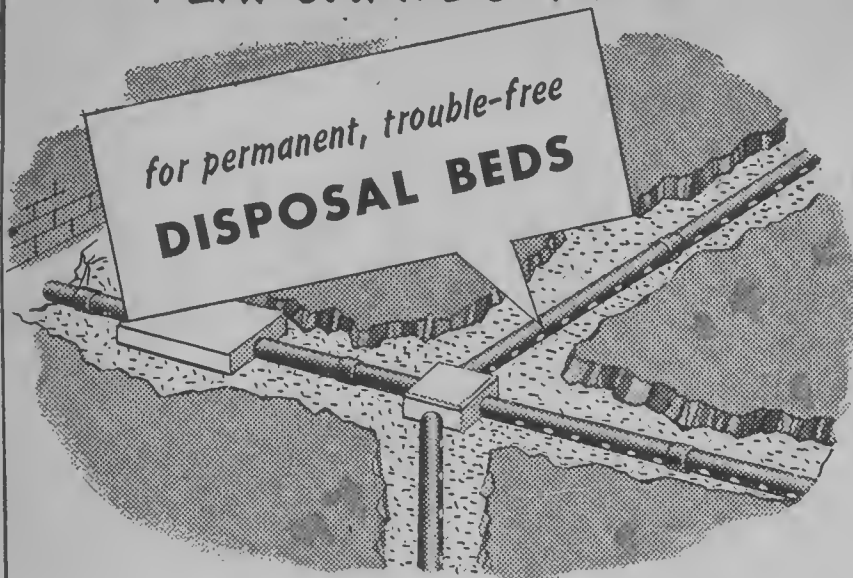
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## Velvety Lawns Without Mowing

An Australian has developed a very low growing plant into a tough, hardy lawn covering

by A. L. KIDSON



This is a lawn of *Sagina subulata* growing at Adelaide, Australia, which requires no mowing, weeding or top-dressing to maintain a dense green sod.

WHAT garden lover has not dreamed of beautiful, velvety lawns that will grow forever without mowing? Well, that dream has now come true. Thousands of such lawns are growing in Australia, and arrangements have been made to market the new plant in North America, from seed lately sent to the U.S.A.

Botanists noted many years ago that a tiny plant called *Sagina subulata*, a native of Corsica, was suitable for lawn-making. But nobody did much about it, until Mr. B. V. Munn of Adelaide began experimenting.

He developed a sport of the *Sagina* which grows less than one inch high, spreads sideways, and covers the ground with a dense emerald carpet resembling moss. When fully mature this needs no mowing, no weeding, no top-dressing.

All you do is trim round the edges once a year with a sharp knife. If the lawn takes much traffic it doesn't even need rolling. Areas not walked on require rolling once in two months; so, the more wear and tear, the less attention needed.

Fifteen years back Mr. Munn got his first specimen of *Sagina* from a friend in New Zealand, where the plant grows wild in some parts. From a tiny piece no bigger than your hand he produced acres of beautiful springy lawn, and tried it out under all kinds of conditions.

Then he began selling it; and orders poured in from all parts of the Continent. So quick does the *Sagina* grow—it takes less than six months to cover the ground, and is fully mature at twelve months—that he has seen his lawns thriving from tropical Queensland, to the snowy country of Tasmania.

People aren't rushing—yet—to rip up their grass lawns to make way for this novelty; but new homemakers find it most attractive. For less than \$5.00 they can buy enough *Sagina* to cover 100 square feet of ground. After three or four months this gives enough growth to be subdivided and re-sown over quite a large area.

There are two ways of planting it. One is to cut up the commercial foot-

square blocks into half-inch cubes and set them flush with the ground six inches apart. You then roll these sets, or press them down with the foot.

The other way is to rub pieces of the plant, or put it through a mincer. The shreds are then sprinkled over the ground, and a light dusting of soil added. Each tiny piece will take root, growing downwards and sideways. There is practically no growth upwards.

Fowlyard, or stable manure should be added to the ground before planting, and dug in to a depth of three or four inches. This gives the root system a good start. For the first month watering must be done daily. But when the lawns are mature they need be watered only in hot weather, four times a week.

This plant, in fact, thrives best in the sun, though it also stands up well to frost and snow. It is extremely hardy, and lawns made from it have borne the trampling of thousands of human feet in the course of one day without showing the least ill effects.

New plantings must be hand-weeded, until the *Sagina* has had time to spread. After that there will be little trouble with weeds, since they are choked out by the plant's dense growth. Chemical weed-killers must never be used; but the addition of phenyle, strangely enough, acts as a tonic.

One attractive feature is the way this plant grows naturally over raised curbs or stonework. Another is the contrast of its vivid coloring, when grown between the flags of crazy pavements, especially if they are of dark slate.

*Sagina* lawns bloom for three months of the year, throwing small white flowers. The blossoms are profuse in the first year, but thereafter diminish. Seeds are the size of small dust-grains, and cannot be sown like ordinary lawn grass. They will germinate only after special treatment, under glass.

The *Sagina* is adaptable, and grows well in its native Corsica, Australia, New Zealand, and many parts of North America. So far as can be dis-

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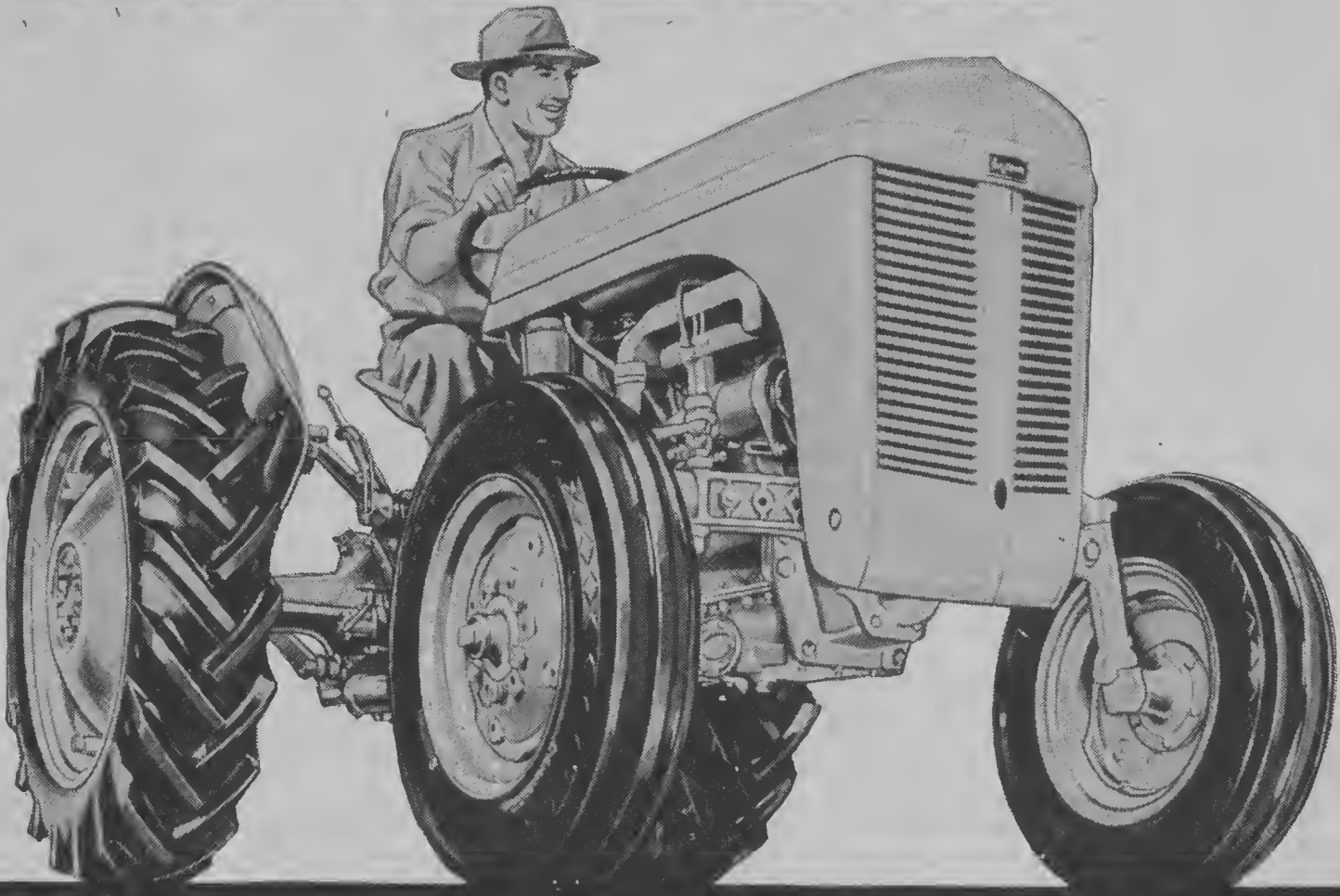
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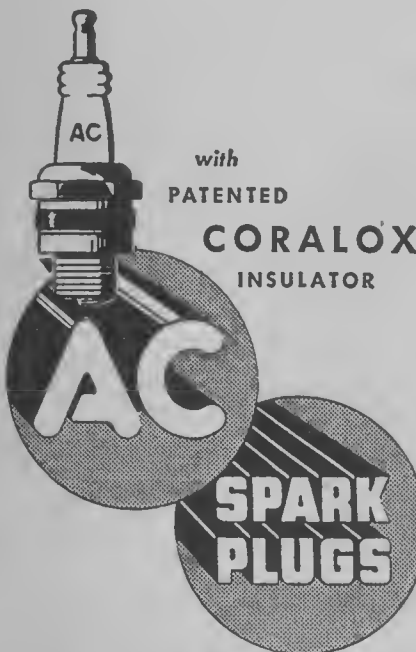
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covered, however, it has never been used extensively for lawns outside Australia.

Mr. Munn's development has aroused wide interest, and he has received inquiries—with requests for samples—from many lands. Consignments of his Sagina have gone to the New Zealand Agricultural Department, to Research Institutes in Australia, to the San Francisco Parks and Gardens Commission,

to Kew Gardens (London) and the New York Botanical Gardens. Orders have also been received from Malaya.

In the main Australian cities many fine Sagina stands have been established, and their owners are most enthusiastic. No mowing, no weeding, no top-dressing! When swept with a broom they fluff up beautifully, like a very expensive carpet. No wonder the lawn mower makers are worried! ✓

## Mystery Radiation Steps Up Growth

*Strange goings-on, where plants, animals, men, and insects grow bigger and faster than elsewhere*

by FRANK CHALLENGER

WHEN a 64-year-old man starts growing at the rate of one-and-a-quarter inches a year, there is either something wrong with his glands, or the mode of his living must be investigated. In this case there can be no grounds for a publicity hoax. The person in question is beyond all reproach. He is Dr. Jules Craveur who arrived in the island of Martinique, in the West Indies, in May, 1951, to study a phenomenon that has the whole scientific world guessing. The 400-square mile island possesses properties which make organisms grow!

Dr. Craveur's assistant, Dr. Albert Rounan, who has been helping the celebrated French scientist to unriddle the mystery, has himself grown by two inches in two years. At an age of 57 that is not only uncommon, it is fantastic. Minerologists, geologists and radiologists have all pooled their knowledge and resources to find the cause of the growth factor. It appears to be in the mineral deposits of Mont Pelee, which emit a radiation that somehow affects the glands controlling growth. Both scientists admit that the radiation affects not only human beings, but animals and plants as well.

When news of the enigmatic growth-generating radiation reached Paris, the people first did not believe in it. Dr. Rounan dispelled rumors which ascribed the strange rate of growth among animals to witchcraft. The scientists have discovered that the growth-radiation has been effective only since 1948. The minerals emitting the rays were there before that, of course, but the radiation's effect only became noticeable then.

One find that has been of particular significance is the peculiarity of primitive creatures to react more strongly to the radiation than civilized beings. An adult human can, at the very utmost, put on another three inches of height, whereas cats can add as much as five to six inches to their stature; dogs about four. Terrifying is the growth of ants, lizards, beetles, tortoises and insects, and if their rate of growth continues at the present pace they will soon bear little resemblance to species of their kind in other lands. "Theoretically it is not only possible but inevitable that all these animals grow larger from generation to generation," says Dr. Craveur. "They will soon be giants—I dare say unique specimens of their species. Obviously, though, the influence of the radiation will wane in a few years,

probably as strangely and inexplicably as it began." Dr. Craveur says that if the radiation continues to excite the growth glands for a century, Martinique will soon become a land with awesome dinosaur-like creatures.

That the French are taking the entire affair seriously, is shown by the fact that they have established an Institute for Growth Investigation at Forte de France.

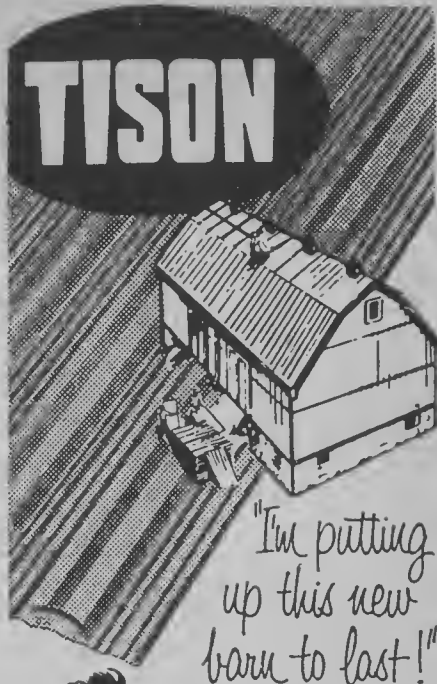
Scientists attached to this institute are now roving afield, in the area of Mont Pelee, armed with clicking Geiger counters. Their orders are to determine the intensity of the clicks so that an accurate survey chart of the radio-active mineral fields can be made. American scientist colleagues suggested to the French that they should find out just how far insects are affected by the radio-active rays.

A control terrain was staked out at the foot of Mont Pelee and tree seedlings, cucumbers, cacti, sunflowers and so forth, planted. The seeds sprouted at an astonishing rate and the young trees reached a height in six months which is customary for two-year-olds. The fleshy leaves of the cacti distended at twice the rate, and when they were compared with cacti planted at the same time at Caracas, Venezuela, scientists could only shake their heads. From the botanical point of view, a miracle had taken place. The cacti were giants in their class.

Dr. Rounan has devoted special interest to the rapid growth of a lizard genus known as the copalizard. It is venomous and deadlier than the cobra. This creature usually attains a length of eight inches. A captured copa in Dr. Rounan's possession measures 20 inches!

The terrifying possibilities and the new biological vistas that have been opened up by the mineral radiation of Mont Pelee are unforeseeable. But one fact stands out quite clearly—animals and plants are particularly receptive to the radiation. "We can only hope that we shall find the solution to the mystery soon," says Dr. Rounan.

He is too much of a scientist to commit himself any further. Nevertheless, it is a theme of such far-flung conjecture that any writer worth his mettle could use it as a first-class futuristic thriller. And he might even be right. For there is no sign that the animals have stopped growing, and as they grow, the following generations go one better. ✓



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# Sadie, Our Shady Lady

*Some achieve responsibility, while others are unfortunate enough to have it thrust under them*

by INA BRUNS

NOT long ago, I heard one of agriculture's big bosses scolding farmers for keeping old livestock around for sentimental reasons. I am afraid most of us go right on keeping the toothless old cow that has mothered our foundation herd; and clinging to Dobbin long after fate has made an appointment for him at the butcher's. It seems to me that a world stripped of sentiment would be a sorry world, indeed: so when our boys took a fancy to Sadie, our five-year-old hen, we allow her to go on swindling the government in spite of what the boss-man down in Ottawa is saying.

Sadie is an oversized Little Red Hen. She has amber-colored eyes and the most raucous voice I have ever heard. I suppose it was her voice that first brought Sadie to our attention. All day long she goes about the place "singing," and the sounds she emits are enough to put the other hens off production. Darryl, our 11-year-old son, is Sadie's proud owner, and he defends her by saying that her voice got ruined by all the gravel she eats.

For all these years Sadie has done nothing but lie around. She never sets like a normal hen should—at least, she never did until last spring. When Darryl came bursting into the house saying that Sadie was about to become a mama hen, we all had to go out to see it before we could believe it. Sure enough, Sadie was sitting on a nest and she wore that grim frown that all setting hens seem to adopt. Darryl was all for dashing to town for chicks that very day. I think he was afraid Sadie might change her mind if he waited; and I wasn't so sure but what he was right. I could detect a sign of indecision on Sadie's countenance.

"We'll give her two or three days," Darryl's dad advised, and if she is still there we'll go in and get her some chicks.

Darryl could hardly wait for the days to go by, and he kept a close watch on Sadie. I think he was anxious to prove that Sadie's heart wasn't as cold and unmaternal as we had always thought. The fourth day was Saturday and Darryl insisted Sadie had proven her intentions were serious. He hurried his dad along to the hatchery to see that Sadie's aspirations were satisfied.

Nothing in the world achieves motherhood as easily as the modern hen. No sooner does she get that old gleam in her eye, than she discovers a brood, still hot from the brooder, being pressed upon her. Sadie stood up in alarm when she discovered a downy chick emerging from her wing. When she did not decapitate it on the spot, Darryl gave her another and yet another. Sadie pranced around, cackled foolishly in her ear-splitting voice, and then resigned herself to motherhood.

I suppose Darryl was wise in not letting Sadie in on the whole terrible truth all at once. He just kept slipping her a chick now and then until all 26 were under her spreading wings. Yes, I said 26! It seemed that the man at the hatchery didn't want just a few

chicks held over Sunday, so he talked my men folks into taking them out to Sadie.

"It seems a little unsporting of us," I said, thinking of all the years Sadie had foregone motherhood, only to have this family thrust upon her in her old age. "I don't think anything, not even a hen, should have 26 charges to bring up."

BOTH Darryl and Sadie were happy those first few days. We decided, since the gay old bird had such an unwieldy bunch of babies, that we should give her the comparative safety of the house yard for the first little while. She was given a corner in the garage and all 26 infants seemed to thrive on the feed we put before them. I think Sadie had decided that motherhood wasn't as grim as she had feared, when all at once those chicks started unfolding like little umbrellas. Nothing in the world grows as fast as a baby bird, and one morning I saw Sadie and her brood emerge from the garage like the proverbial bat out of Hades. The chicks, in their dash to find the early worm, were carrying their scolding mother aloft just like a football team carries the hero from the field of victory. As they crossed the road, the cross old bird was unceremoniously dumped off into a mud puddle. Sadie jumped up, shook out her disheveled feathers, glanced after the fleet of fleeing youngsters, and turned to run in the opposite direction. Sadie was downright scared!

From that day forward Sadie was always on the run, lest the flock of chicks should overtake and run right over her. They gobbled up her food, before she could reach it; and at "tenting time" they extended beyond her wings so they climbed on top of her, until only her head with the glassy amber eyes peered out of the mass of feathers.

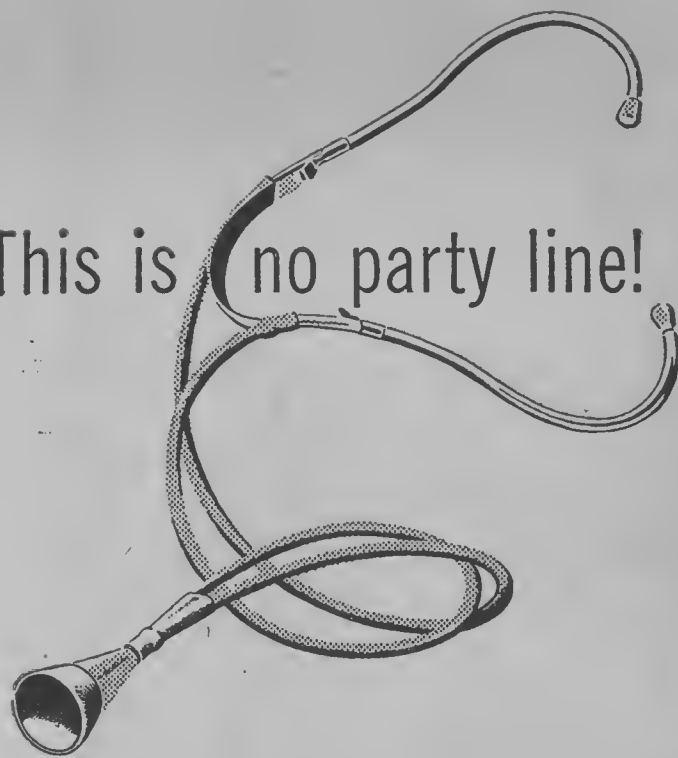
"Maybe a hawk will pack off a few of them," Darryl said hopefully, when he saw Sadie's predicament.

But one night, as we were about to leave for an evening out, we discovered that Sadie was not trusting to a hawk to solve her problem. She had shaken off some of her tormentors and they had fallen into a pail of used oil. I shall never forget the time Darryl and I had washing up those oil-coated chicks. We had to use three pails of water, at a temperature that would act on the grease and would not remove the feathers. I think Sadie was disappointed that we managed to keep the temperature on an even keel.

As the feathers grew on her youngsters, so grew her antipathy for them. Sadie loved to fly over a fence, leaving her squawking brood behind her. And yet, something in her hen-mind told her she dare not shirk the responsibility for her rude brood of ruffians. Sadie is a gal with high principles, but it was easy to see that her subconscious was toying with the idea of escape.

One night we were kept from sleep by the wail of Sadie's brood. Darryl

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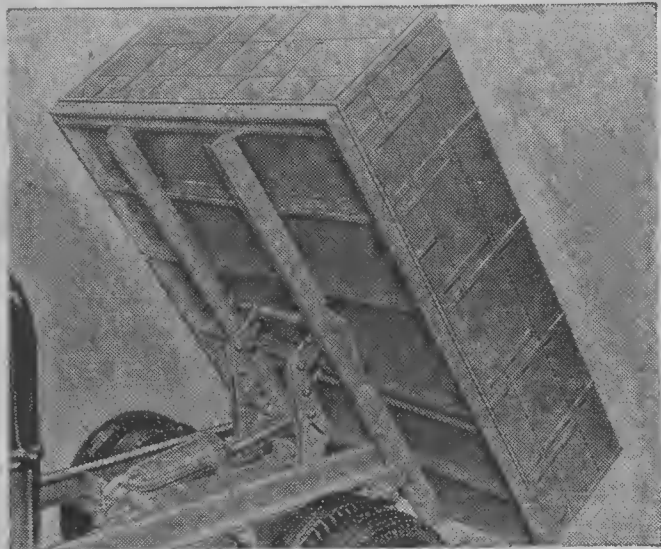
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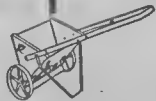
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and his dad went out to investigate, and they could see Sadie sitting high in a tree just outside the garage door, while her youngsters jumped and screamed for her return to the corner. Darryl had to climb up the tree and pluck a protesting Sadie from its branches. No sooner was Sadie tossed back into her corner, than she was swallowed up by her chilly youngsters.

The next night Sadie had to be plucked from the tree again. This time Darryl closed the garage door so that she could not escape. When the yelping of the brood once more brought on sleeplessness, we went out to see

what unmotherly trick Sadie was now trying to pull off. We were not prepared for what we discovered. This time a completely hysterical Sadie cackled defiantly from the comparative safety of a high shelf in the garage. She was sitting up there on top of a box clearly marked *dynamite!*

I doubt very much that we will find Sadie in a receptive mood for chicks this spring. So far, she runs every time she sees a chick, and quite frankly, I don't blame her. Even the bogeyman down in Ottawa doesn't scare Sadie. I think she's even given up laying!

## Report from Rome

*Notes from Rome, Italy, the headquarters of F.A.O., which tell of farm happenings in many countries*

by **JACQUES SODERINI**  
and **JOHN ANDERSON**

At Piansano, a little town in central Italy, 46 agriculturists showed their appreciation of the land reform laws of Italy's Christian Democrat government. Finding themselves proprietors of small holdings of land as a result of the laws, the 46 handed in their Communist party membership cards and signed up with the Christian Democrat party.

The experts of 16 European countries—Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Great Britain, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Holland, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and Western Germany—have concluded the preparatory work on the formation of a "Green Pool" for the centralization of the marketing of European agricultural produce. The plans will now be examined by the agricultural ministries of the countries concerned and further discussions will take place in Paris later this year.

Dr. Philip V. Cardon of the U.S.A., the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization's third Director-General, took over the duties of his post at the F.A.O. headquarters in Rome, February 22. Dr. Cardon, who replaces Norris E. Dodd, also of the U.S.A., has been associated with the work of F.A.O. since the first preliminary meetings in 1943. Dr. Cardon was born in Utah in 1889, and his career in agricultural administration and research commenced with his first appointment with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1909. His last post was that of Director of the U.S. D.A. Graduate school. He resigned this post to take up his new duties with F.A.O.

A permanent agricultural exhibition may be added to the list of attractions for interested visitors to Rome. Exhibits demonstrating various aspects of Italy's complex agricultural system were last year put on show by the Ministry of Agriculture in connection with the international agricultural exhibition that was held in Rome during the summer. These exhibits will form the nucleus for a new exhibition to coincide with this year's Rome Fair, and the Agriculture Ministry is at present considering the idea of a permanent exhibition. The matter has now received support from individual members of the Italian Parliament

who have made an official approach to the Ministry of Agriculture.

The World Meteorological Organization of the U.N. has published its first report on an inquiry into the possibilities of producing artificial rain in arid and semi-arid regions. The report makes it clear that, while present methods of artificial rain-making do not produce results with scientific accuracy, there is no reason to believe that further investigation in this field may not eventually produce a satisfactory method of precipitation control.

At Ditton in Buckinghamshire, England, a year and a half ago, four Italians bought a run-down and dilapidated farm. They worked hard and the venture prospered. Now the farm buildings are repaired, the pig sties and the poultry sheds full, and the fields productive again. The farm cost them £3,000—£2,000 of their own money and £1,000 on a bank loan—and the story of how they were able to save their own part of the money starts back during the war when the four came to the Ditton district as prisoners of war. As prisoners of war, they were sent out to work eight hours a day on various of the local farms and, earning the reputation of being hard workers, they were able to hire themselves out to the farmers for additional work beyond the required eight hours. On the basis of this they returned to the same district when, eventually, the war was over and with their reputation for hard work, were able to contract themselves out as a team to the farmers they had known before, until, saving the money they earned, they were able to buy the dilapidated farm. They are now looking for more land in the district which they might buy.

Italy was Europe's top grain-producing country for 1953, with a record harvest yielding 9,040,000 metric tons. This figure is sufficient to cover Italy's own domestic needs. It is not only considerably larger than the poor 1952 harvest, but also tops the figure of 8,138,000 metric tons for 1938—the high spot in the "battle of the grain" sponsored by Mussolini. Three factors, in addition to more favorable weather conditions in 1953, to which Italian Agricultural experts attribute the improved yields are: (1) deeper



plowing as a result of increased mechanization; (2) increased use of fertilizers; (3) the use of new varieties of selected grain for seeding. V

The 1953 report of the Office of European Economic Co-operation states that, while there was an appreciable expansion of agricultural production in West Germany, Holland and Italy, agriculture in many other European countries, particularly in France, showed a decline during the year. The report drew particular attention to the problems of southern European countries—Turkey, Greece, Yugoslavia, southern Italy, Spain and Portugal. For these areas it spoke of the need for modernization of agricultural methods, increased farm investment, and financial aid. V

An F.A.O. staff team arrived in Santiago during March for a seven-week tour which will take in Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Colombia and Mexico. The purpose of the visit is to have a preliminary exchange of views with Latin American governments prior to the third F.A.O. Regional Meeting on Food and Agricultural Program and Outlook which takes place next September in Buenos Aires. Previous discussion on South American problems at F.A.O. meetings has underlined the need for more selective expansion of agricultural production and for increased consumption of agricultural products. Among the items to be discussed by the F.A.O. team and the various governments will be the question of future policies regarding price and other economic incentives to farmers. V

The Italian Government continually stresses the need for improved agricultural techniques as a means of increasing production and lowering prices, and to this end, courses for farmers are arranged through the medium of the Italian National Institute for Professional Agricultural Instruction. This year the Institute announces that an estimated 22,000 farmers—mostly young farmers—will take advantage of the instruction offered. V

Increased Use of Fertilizers in Italy is indicated by figures for the manufacture of Italian chemical fertilizer which have just been released. In 1953 manufacture of these fertilizers increased by 18 per cent over the previous year. It was particularly during the latter half of the year that manufacturing activity spurted ahead and the production total for December showed an increase of 30 per cent over December, 1952. The Italian Government uses experimental stations in various parts of the country to show farmers that they can increase their production by 20 or 30 per cent by using fertilizers, and can easily cover the cost of the fertilizers themselves. V

European Delegates to the international conference on prices and uses of milk and milk products, recently held at Strasburg, expressed the hope that the U.S. would utilize its stocks of butter, cheese and powdered milk for the alleviation of hunger in countries outside of Europe, and would not upset the European market by any extensive releases of these surpluses. V



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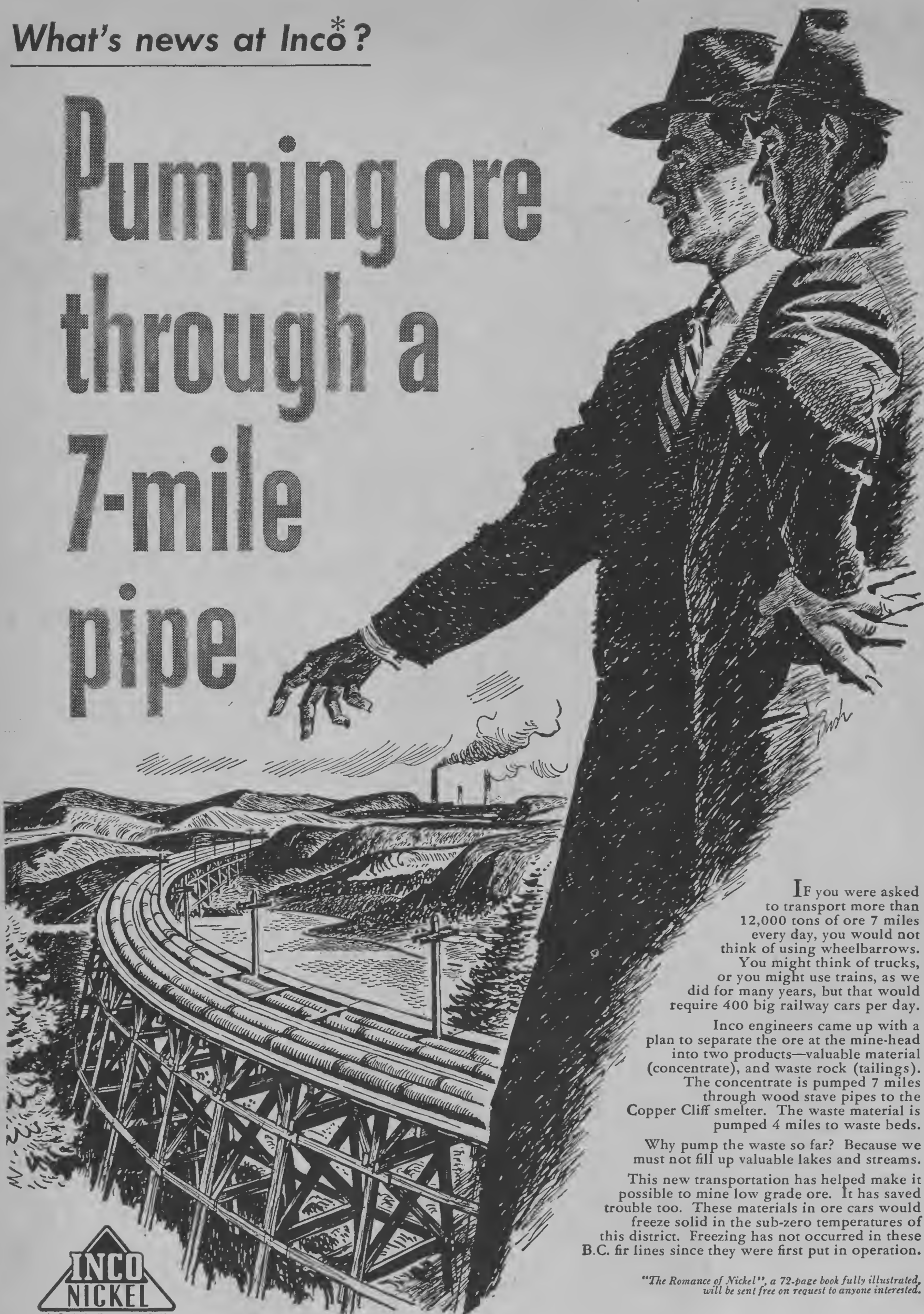
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# The Futurity Idea Catches On

*The show catches the imagination of breeders and spectators at Edmonton. The city is starting one for junior stockmen*

by DON BARON

FRED MILLAR joined the Edmonton Exhibition Association as assistant manager five years ago, and one of his first projects to create greater interest at the spring livestock show was to introduce the futurity idea. He proceeded to persuade cattle breeders that it was well worth their while to enter the show. Then, by staging an inter-breed show in the evening, he set out to convince some of Edmonton's citizens that it was their chance to get a glimpse of Alberta's best livestock. The results left even the hopeful planners a little amazed.



Walter Melnyk dresses last year's supreme champion for the 1954 show.

First show was in 1953, and over 3,000 people jammed their way into the arena the evening of the final judging, in place of the 600 or so spectators who used to straggle in. Many of them were workers from city jobs whose closest association with farming was a Sunday drive in the country; but they were lured in to see the choicely bred cattle. Earlier in the day, Alberta's premier, Hon. E. C. Manning, the Lieutenant-Governor, and members of the legislature came to see the cattle. Breeders themselves were infected with a new kind of enthusiasm as they prepared entries for the show-ring.

This spring, entries were up again, and to make room for the additional cattle, a new \$300,000 addition was built to the north side of the sales pavilion. The Exhibition Association, encouraged by the enthusiastic cattlemen, persuaded city council to back them on this big investment, and by show time, one of the finest cattle barns in Canada was ready for occupancy. Members of the Legislature agreed that an annual official visit to the show was a worthwhile event, and they toured the barns, and watched the progress of cattle judging. More people than ever came out to see the intense competition built up in the show-ring among the hard-working breeders.

The show was started last year after four years of planning. It was in 1950

that Fred Millar journeyed to Valley City, North Dakota, to see the futurity show there. In Canada, there was already a precedent, for the futurity idea had been tried at Brandon, Manitoba, in 1945, and had been growing there too, ever since.

Fred liked several aspects of the Valley City show, but best of all, the interest of breeders themselves was only matched by that of the townsfolk there. City people were happy to turn out to see the display and the competition staged by their farm neighbors. He came home convinced that Edmonton needed such a show.

As he saw it, the advantage gained by big breeders at most shows, where they could fit a large string of cattle and select the ones in superb bloom at show day, was largely offset. Animals had to be nominated well ahead of time for the futurity. Though the show was in March, entry fees of \$10 per head were deposited before September 1, and by January 1, final selections for the show would have to be made. Then, in the all-important three months before show time, if the animal did not live up to expectations, it was simply tough luck. No substitutions could be made.

Since it was a breeding show, exhibitors would be encouraged to retain the animals in their herds rather than sell them; consequently, a continuation class was planned for animals to be exhibited the second year.

With breeders limited to a total entry of three bulls and three females, there would be plenty of room for many of the smaller herds, and a better cross section of Alberta cattle could be brought out. With entries from the bigger herds whittled down too, he noticed that more of the ambitious young breeders could be encouraged to come out, and gain the experience necessary to win top honors themselves.

Plans were completed to begin the show in 1952, but foot-and-mouth

disease postponed the beginning to the following year. Now it is a feature of the Edmonton show.

The emphasis placed on breeding success in futurity shows was apparent this year, when one of the greatest triumphs on record was achieved. The final step toward this accomplishment was taken in 1951, when the Short-horn herd of Wm. Chipman and Sons needed a herd sire. Quiet and youthful Walter Melnyk got his eye on the bull he wanted at the Gallinger sale in the same Edmonton arena, where he scored his success this year. He bid and kept bidding against hopeful American and Canadian breeders, and finally gambled a \$15,000 bankroll on "Killearn Max William." The bull is rapidly justifying Walter's judgment.

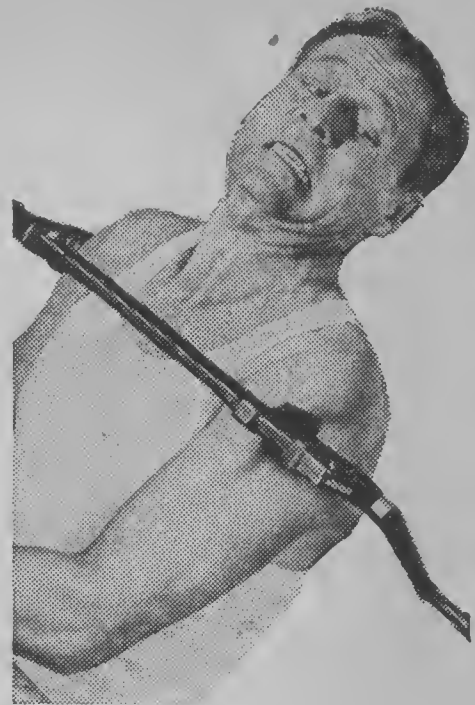
Melnyk brought two bulls and three heifers to the show this year, all sired by the high-priced bull. The two bulls were judged grand champion and reserve grand champion of the breed. Two of the heifers completed the sweep, winning championship and reserve in the female classes. The fifth Melnyk entry was in the continuation class, for it was her second trip to the show. Last year, she was judged supreme female champion over all breeds. This year she won her class again. Though she wasn't eligible for the inter-breed show, one of her stablemates did the trick, winning the supreme championship in the bull classes.

The show continues to grow, and plans are already well under way to initiate a junior futurity show for the youngsters. Here again the idea comes from North Dakota, where one show official says:

"Kids make a hit with everyone. The spectators get more kick out of watching them than they do from seeing the adult show."

But, he went on, and Fred Millar agreed with his goal here:

"The Futurity is instilling genuine livestock interest in those boys and girls. I think the answer is that the youngsters are being shown a real opportunity. Our futurity boys and girls are encouraged to keep the good heifers that win at the show, even though they are offered a tempting price to sell. They soon learn to build for the future that way, and to avoid unreal values, whereas a fat steer



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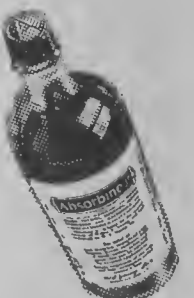
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project, in my opinion, too often gives young people false and unstable ideas."

Presented by Fred Millar to the breeders themselves, this goal, too, has been accepted by Alberta's purebred men. By using the futurity idea, they

believe they are giving the breeders more incentive to breed good stock, putting their best foot forward to their customers in the city, and creating an outstanding livestock event for Edmonton. V

## God Speed The Plow

*An English plowing match in the fall  
and some of the reflections it brought*

by CAPT. T. KERR RITCHIE

AS we walked along the path through the little meadows that joined the wood, on our way to the local plowing match, the sunlight glistened on the hoar frost that had melted and clung in heavy drops to the grass. Here one flashed emerald, there ruby; another a pure brilliance like a diamond. Under foot by the wood, the fallen acorns crunched as they split into halves beneath the sudden pressure.

It was a typically English country scene in the fall of the year. The long stubble field, marked for the occasion into a score of "lands" or rectangles for the plows to navigate a sea of straight furrows, sprawled across the bottom of a shallow combe or valley. Two little spinneys, just beginning to redden in glorious autumnal tints, topped the far end of the sloping field; and close at hand, a fire of hedge clippings flamed brightly enough to defy the feeble sun, diffusing a subtle perfume and warmth.

Among the onlookers of the plowing match were a group of school boys, who had been brought in cars, and an old, old farm laborer, who had walked some considerable distance. The boys, carefully instructed in the making of a clean, straight furrow, were wholly interested in the tractors. The laborer said to me with real feeling "I did like my horses," and spent the whole time in watching the two pairs of heavy, hairy Shires among the score or so of tractors. It was not that he scorned the machines: he did not understand them, he said, and they were not alive.

The most handy tractor turned three simultaneous furrows; and it not only

increased the speed of the plow, but made more real one of the oldest and most widely used metaphors—of the ship that plows the sea. The turning of the three sods, with a quick change of color, gave an inevitable suggestion of water, heightened by hovering seagulls following up the noisome monster. But the whole gave me the picture rather of the ripples of an incoming tide, than the ridge at a ship's prow.

Soon the good, gigantic smile of the brown, old earth spread over the whole face of this farmer's field. A good rich tilth succeeded what some people, looking only at the weeds, would call a very foul stubble; and the alleged foulness was not only hidden, but was providing the very stuff of fertility. After all, a weed is only a plant in the wrong place.

It was the greater pleasure, unless you were very young, to watch the horses and their friendship with the plowman. They understood his gentle monosyllables, as well as a sheep-dog the shepherd's warbles and whistles. How delicately, without guide, they side-stepped at the headland, while the plowman sat almost luxuriously on the handle of the plow in see-saw fashion to narrow the pivot of revolution. When it came time to do the last narrow ridge, the line needing the nicest art, one of the team found the trough too narrow for his great hooves, and had to walk with one on the ridge, one in the dip. This bothered him, and the driver, seeing his trouble, pulled up for a second to let the horse solve his own difficulty. He too, though younger, loved his horses . . . but God speed the plow. V

## The Plowing

*Continued from page 10*

for food and water. The faint but bitter scent of a skunk hung in the air. The little duck was parched, her body crying for moisture after its long vigil. But she dare not leave the eggs now. Her instincts told her that this was the night the miracle would occur. A couple of times she thrust her misshapen bill underneath her body, nuzzled the eggs. Satisfied, she resumed her position.

Soon there was a tiny movement below her breast. More and more the movement increased, spread, until the nest was alive. The spoonbill sat perfectly still.

One hour, two hours passed. Then the duck got up and turned around. She felt with her bill each of the seven tiny ducklings which huddled together seeking warmth from their first blast of cold air. She rooted out the lone egg that was left. It was sterile. That done, she sat back down, spreading

her wings a trifle to afford more cover for the ducklings.

She remained that way until a flush showed in the east. A faint light began to steal across the blackened field. She had to move fast. It was 200 yards down to the slough. The crows would come with the sun.

When John Millar made his first trip down the field that morning, he stopped his horses opposite the oblong of stubble. He walked the few steps over and stood gazing down at the empty nest. It was all mused now and the crows had eaten the sterile egg.

He put a work-hardened hand up to his head, scratched it thoughtfully. When he looked down toward the slough, he smiled. His keen old eyes could see a mother duck and her brood out in the middle of it.

He was a good farmer, was John Millar. He spoke aloud. "I'm tickled you fooled the black devils," he said. "And now I can swing around and finish plowing my field."



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## Have You Heard About Brangus?

Continued from page 9

three-eighths Brahman to five-eighths Angus blood. That produces an animal that's bigger, more docile, with more good beef, than either parent breed.

The typical Brangus is that "thrifty black calf," just the best one in the herd. He's often small at birth, and like an Angus, almost cinnamon in color. But from the moment he gets to his feet—and that's just minutes—he really

starts to grow, until he's almost as big as his mother at weaning time.

**Z**EBU cattle in India are sacred. They're milked and they're worked. But Hindus do not eat beef. Zebu run wild and there really isn't any such thing as a "purebred."

But the basic parents of Brangus on the Brahman side are the Guzer strain, a huge, slow-moving work animal, which has existed for more than 4,000 years, often under nearly starvation conditions. He has a hump that carries an extra water supply like a camel, and he has horns.

From that Brahma blood comes the ability to withstand heat. They have sweat glands under the skin. English cattle do not. They have muscle control, too, also under the skin, and can shake it like a horse to get rid of insects. They can, and will, go long distances for feed and water, and will graze in the open, with the sun bearing down, when English breeds must lie in the shade.

A Brahman calf seems to have very little mother instinct and will nurse any cow available. The Brahman cow will nurse any calf, as long as she has milk. The cows give plenty of milk to raise

a calf, but are not such heavy milkers that they have udder trouble on the range. If they are, there's a calf nearby that will take care of the situation. Some breeders believe that the loose, smooth skin of the Brahman lets him grow faster. They all know that a calf that will nurse anything in sight will get the most feed.

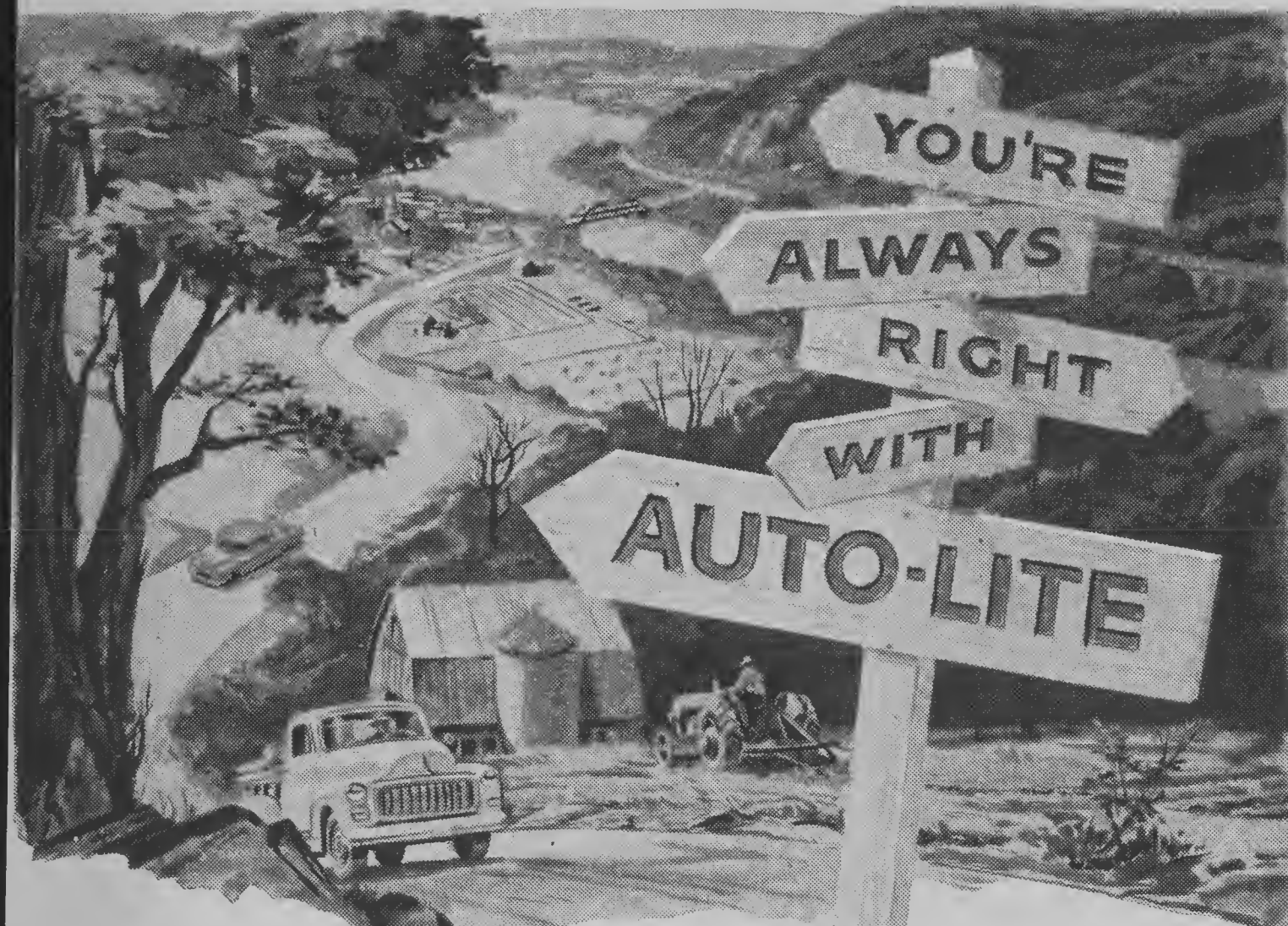
Brahmans have a strong "herd" instinct. A bull protects his cows, rounds them up, keeps them away from danger, and moving to better grass in the pastures. All cows protect all calves.

The typical Brangus seems to inherit all the Brahman characteristics, except his hump, his color, and his horns.

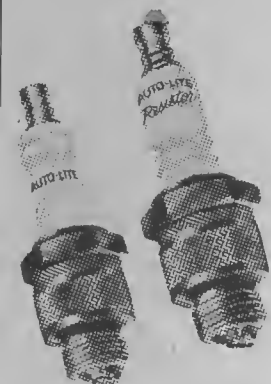
Apparently the Brahman that was susceptible to pink eye, eye cancer and numerous other diseases, died out long ago. He doesn't have them in this country, even in infected herds. The Brangus has the same strong disease resistance—and the Brangus association has letters from ranchers, who claim that their first generation eliminated pink eye.

Joe Crow, foreman at Clear Creek, insists that Brahman—and Brangus

## Wherever you go...



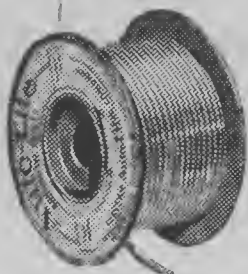
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These Brangus calves take a meal where they can get it, and let their Angus dams do the worrying.

have "baby sitters," with perhaps two cows staying with the calf herd while their mothers graze. Then the two that stayed will leave and other mothers will take their places.

The cows are active, quick-moving, can walk miles without panting. One herd of Brangus heifers, about to calve, loped nearly a quarter-mile to us at Crow's call. None of them were panting when they got there, and a calf less than a week old kept up without trouble.

**F**ROM the Angus side of the breed (known in Scotland as early as 1523), comes the ability to produce beef. They're black. They're fat at almost any age. And the Brangus, like the Angus, is naturally polled—without horns—which reduces accidents and injury, to both cattle and men. Feeder buyers, particularly, like polled cattle.

The combination does well, Pope has learned, in Canada. "I never thought of them having an insect problem," he said, "until a rancher wrote me—told how his Brangus kept grazing, when his other cattle took to the ponds to fight flies."

The field is wide open for development of the blood, Pope points out, because there is no patent on the idea; but the Brangus association has taken steps to protect their quality by registering only the best animals, with pedigrees that go back on both the Angus and Brahman side, and "only after inspection, to be sure they are good individuals themselves."

Good Brangus bulls have proved profitable for practical ranchers, who want big, thrifty, hornless black calves from their grade herds, the



"good doing" calves that sell well to feeders. But they're extremely scarce. They start at \$500 at weaning time "and more than pay their way."

When a representative of a group of Missouri farmers in a "bull pool" called, Pope suggested a "half-blood" may be your solution. The farmers already had good Angus cattle. Pope suggested that a half-blood would "produce you some good quarter-blood heifers. Then trade off the half-blood for another that's not related, and you'll have three-eighths-five-eighths grade blood. Then you can get a Brangus bull that'll really do you some good."

Right now, almost every Brangus breeder in the country has some cross-breeds available, which he's using as basic stock to get his own herd started. Perhaps the scarcest animal is the three-quarter Brahman bull, which is the "quickest operation, because you get a Brangus the first generation by breeding him to a registered Angus."

Pope is still scouring the country trying to find the basic breeding stock that's good enough for ranchers who are interested. In one week he bought more than 300 Angus heifers and "I've got eight in that bunch I'm going to keep for myself," he said.

Breeding operations still are going on at Clear Creek, and will continue there, but Pope and Buttram hope eventually to get into the purebred Brangus business entirely. Meanwhile, most of their registered herd has been transferred to Granada, Miss., where there is more room than on the home ranch, and "in a more centrally located place, too, to supply the rapidly growing beef business in the south."

It's a story that was interesting to breeders everywhere during the first ten years, but Pope, quicker than anyone else, feels that "we've only made a good start. America needs breeds of cattle that fit our conditions. I think we have one." V

## Water Makes Magic At Vernon

*Continued from page 18*

inch in diameter, and operate with a pressure of 40 pounds per square inch. There are larger ones, too, with risers spaced farther apart, which require higher pressure.

Another way of measuring water for irrigation is by water meter. This method is used where the meter can be attached to a pressure line.

Besides the main canals and branches, the V.I.D. has many miles of pipe lines, which bring water under pressure to any point on his property that a farmer may select. The farmer can then have his irrigation water measured, by having it run down a weir, or he can attach his sprinkler system directly to the pressure line.

Most pressure lines have higher pressure than is necessary to operate sprinklers, so that it is generally necessary to throttle the pressure down, by means of a valve, to the figure the sprinklers work best on.

THE men who patrol the canals and pipe lines, and who turn on and shut off the water, are called ditch-walkers. Besides walking his beat, a ditch-walker must be at his telephone during certain hours. (Nearly every

house has a phone in the irrigated zone.) A beat may mean 12 to 14 miles of walking each day, with numerous stops to check the various weirs that are running, and also to check the pressures on the various sprinkler systems. Each week the ditch-walker remits a number of "water tickets" to the head office, and at the same time hands out duplicates of these tickets to the various users. After the water season is over, at the beginning of September, the ditch-walkers become cement workers, carpenters, or engage in the hundred and one tasks which are necessary to keep

a large irrigation project in good shape.

Since leakage is the chief problem facing most irrigation projects, remedies have to be tried out from time to time, to reduce, or stop, the loss of water. In this connection the V.I.D. has lately built about 2,000 feet of concrete flume. The flume is made in four-foot sections and rests on concrete pedestals spaced four feet apart.

Since it is raised off the ground, any leak that occurs can be readily seen and dealt with. On account of their weight the use of concrete flumes is limited, so far at least, to branch canals.

The sections have to be loaded on trucks at the factory with a crane, as they weigh in the neighborhood of 500 pounds each.

All sections and pedestals are manufactured by V.I.D. workmen, who also level off the ground before the flume is laid, lay it, and seal it ready for use. So far it has proved satisfactory.

Irrigation has made the desert blossom as the rose, and here in the Okanagan it provides a living for thousands. As time goes on, more and more land will be put under the furrow and the sprinkler. But that, of course, lies in the future. V



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## A Pond for Fun And Profit

*Continued from page 11*

reached its capacity of 600 pounds of fish, and it will stay that way unless you fish out 300 pounds a year. When you fish out 25 pounds, the remaining fish will grow 25 pounds.

MANY farms, of course, have no existing pond. Yet good ponds can be built without a supply of running water. Any low-lying, poorly drained field is a good site for a dugout pond, if it is fed by run-off water from a large enough drainage area. An acre pond should be fed by run-off and seepage from 10 to 12 acres of pasture slopes, or from 30 acres of woods. A half acre pond needs half this area. In all parts of Canada where annual rainfall is light, the drainage area should be larger.

An inexpensive dugout pond can be scooped out with even one team and dragpan. The scooped-out earth should be drawn far enough away, and spread out sufficiently, so that silt from it will not seep back into the pond with every rainfall.

If the pond is fed the year around by one or more springs, in addition to run-off and seepage, it is apt to become damaged and silt-filled by flooding. So a diversion ditch, sown to grass, must be built around the pond to take any excess flood water away quickly.

Perhaps your dugout site is within reach of a brook, so that you can keep

your pond filled with water diverted from the stream. Best way to do this is by laying a three- or four-inch pipe from the brook bed to the edge of your dugout. A "by-pass" pond of this type will never fill with silt, and the pipe can be closed to keep your pond water clean whenever the brook becomes turbid.

Shape of your dugout is a matter of taste. Rectangular ponds are easiest to scoop out. Many farmers prefer circular ponds, or banks that wind in and out, giving the pond a "natural" look.

HOWEVER, the key to water storage on your farm may not be a dugout-type pond at all, but an earth dam built across a gully. Excellent sites occur in small valleys, or gullies, with deep sides and gradually sloping floors. A dam less than 12 feet high built across one of these can safely impound considerable run-off water. Sometimes two small dams cost less than a large one, yet provide an equal area of storage water.

Many gullies receive water from springs or brooks. If the dammed area depends on run-off and seepage only, it needs to be fed by a 40-acre to 150-acre watershed, in an area with fairly heavy annual rainfall.

In addition to the dam, a gully-pond needs a good spillway.

Top of the earth dam should be from 7 to 12 feet wide, depending on whether it is to be used for a roadway. The upstream-side slope should be built at the ratio of three-to-one; the downstream side two-to-one. The base width of a dam is at least five times

its height plus the top width. The length of pipe needed for a drain through the base of the dam can be figured in this way.

Site of the entire dam should first be cleared of all trash, then broken with a turning plow. Next a foot-deep trench, at least a foot wide, should be cut along the middle of the dam site, right from one side to the other, even up the slopes. This trench is the core of the dam and must be filled with clay subsoil, tamped and puddled well. How wide the core-trench is, depends

Note the plugged drain pipe, and the screened inlet box on the riser.

on the type of soil you use for fill for the dam. If it is light soil, without clay content, and you are going to depend on run-off water alone, this core should be several feet wide and rise, in the center of your dam, higher than the water level. Otherwise there will be considerable loss from seepage.

The drain pipe should be at the bottom of the dam and laid on the undis-

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turbed, compact earth. An acre pond needs a six- or eight-inch pipe. Four-inch pipes are satisfactory for smaller ponds. They can be of iron, steel, "asbestos-cement," concrete or clay. Vitrified clay sewer pipe, or concrete pipe, should be laid on concrete cradles and the sections joined with concrete or plastic-asphalt cement. The drain pipe should be set in concrete collars, two feet square, and six inches thick, at 32-foot intervals to check seepage along the pipe.

Fill for the dam, if possible, should be taken from the pond site, and be free of stone, gravel or trash. Topsoil from the fill site should be saved for the crown and downstream side of the dam.

Build your dam in six-inch layers, keeping the layers as even as possible across the entire dam. Movement of horses or machinery should pack it down evenly. Top of your dam should be at least three feet above the high-water level.

The dam will settle several inches after it is built, and a final coat of topsoil may be needed after settling, to even up the crown. Sow the crown and downstream side to sod grass, or pasture mixture, to prevent erosion and the formation of rills. Do not allow plants with long tap roots to grow on the dam, or burrowing animals to cause damage.

A GOOD spillway is just as important as a good dam. The spillway is the grassed ditch around the pond, which carries off surplus water, when the pond is spring-flooded, from a point considerably above the dam,

to a point below the dam. Most people build spillways too narrow and steep. You can hardly build a spillway too wide. The slope should be five per cent or less, even if you have to build a small timber check-dam to maintain this grade. The ditch should be located so its entrance will not easily be jammed by ice. Do not screen the entrance; loss of fish down a spillway is negligible and the screen becomes choked with debris. If one large spillway can't be built around one side of your pond and dam, smaller ones on both sides could accommodate the same quantity of flood-water.

When you have determined your spillway level, you can attach your "riser" to the end of your drain pipe which is inside your pond. Attach a T-joint here and plug the end in such a way that you can easily unplug it

**Willpower: the ability to eat one salted peanut.**

if you wish to drain your pond in future. Your "riser" is a vertical pipe fastened into the top of the T-joint. The top of your vertical pipe should be six inches lower than the bottom of your spillway entrance. This riser pipe determines the constant level of water in the dam. Protect the top with a screened box that allows water to flood in but keeps out ice and trash.

Hatchery fish thrive in any one of these types of ponds, and the water stored will be of value in many ways. The initial investment and labor of building and stocking will be amply repaid by lifelong recreation and profit. ✓

## Frocks

### From Sacks

A SOFT, transparent raincoat made out of inedible fats, and a woman's coat made out of corn! These were products demonstrated recently at a meeting of the American Marketing Association by the Research Administration of the United States Department of Agriculture. Two daughters of Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson, modelled cotton dresses that looked like wool and silk. There was also a summer dress made out of used fertilizer sacks. The coat made out of corn was developed, because corn starch manufacturers had some protein leftovers that they didn't know what to do with. Cloth was developed as a result, and is now on the market as a half-and-half mixture with either cotton or wool, under the trade name "Vicara." The soft, transparent raincoat was developed because, during the war, detergents achieved prominence as cleaning agents, due to the scarcity of inedible fats. Today, inedible fats are superabundant. Result: a soft, transparent cloth that sheds water, and made from the surplus. In years gone by, poorer families have used empty flour sacks for dress-making. Fertilizer sacks, now much more common than formerly, were not suitable because they smelled, and the acid ate into the sacking. Now, old fertilizer sacks can be specially treated. At the Washington demonstration a young lady appeared in an attractive summer dress made out of used fertilizer sacks. ✓



Easy way to tap sap

CANADIAN farmers know the struggle, at maple sugar time, of hauling the sap to the sugar house — especially if there has been an early thaw. So we were interested in hearing how one farmer, who used aluminum tubing for summer irrigation, also used it as a spring pipeline to carry the sap from his trees to the sugar house some distance away.

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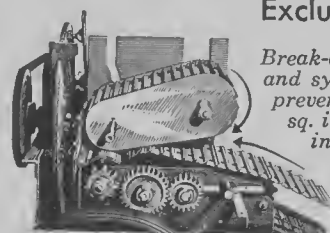
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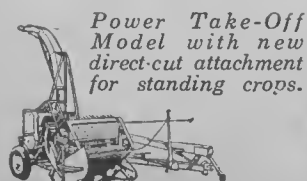
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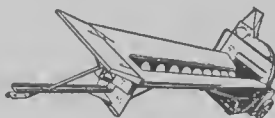
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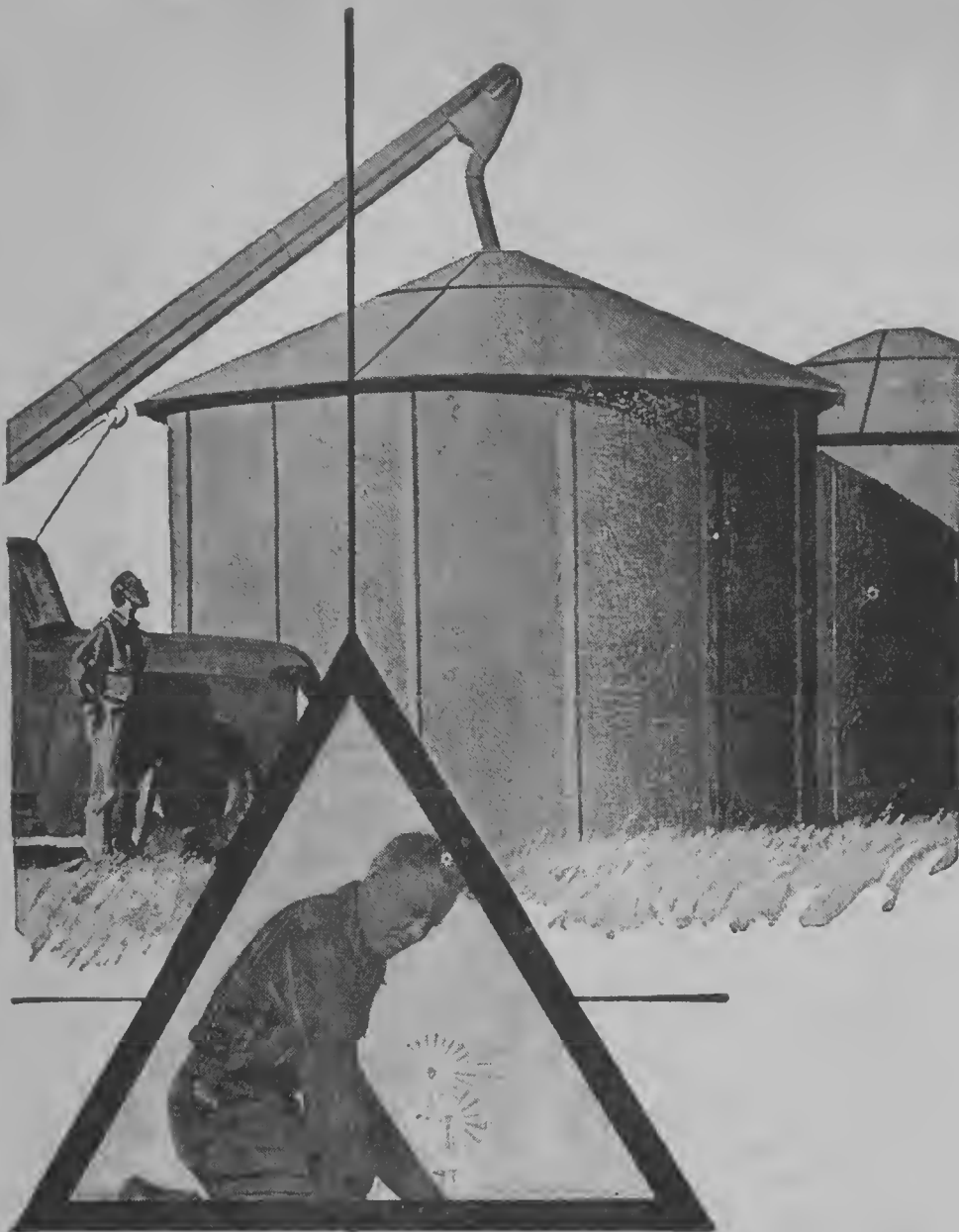
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## Can We Grow Wheat Forever?

*Continued from page 7*

Recent investigations in southern Alberta show that even a small amount of erosion will remove this much nitrogen and humus from the soil. At 12 places at which there was moderate wind erosion of a medium-textured soil, average losses of 16.7 per cent nitrogen and 17.8 per cent organic matter were recorded; and some individual samples showed reductions up to 50 per cent. The loss was even more severe in coarse-textured soils; on such soils the nitrogen loss averaged 39.6 per cent and the humus loss 45.8 per cent.

This work demonstrates that the erosion problem, often severe in grain and fallow rotations, must be totally solved. Even moderate wind erosion may be much more destructive of soil fertility than many years of cereal cropping.

**T**HE long-term cropping sequences at Indian Head and Brandon led to similar conclusions. At Indian Head, which has an annual average precipitation of 18 inches, a three-year rotation of fallow, wheat, wheat, was established on a very fertile, friable, black soil. The land, broken in 1890, had already grown a number of crops. During the period 1912-51, the average yield per acre of wheat on fallow was 26.7 bushels, and for wheat following wheat, was 14.4 bushels. Wheat after fallow showed no trend toward reduced yields: wheat following wheat showed a significant downward trend.

Two factors are thought to be largely responsible for the reduction of yield in fields in which wheat follows wheat. Weed infestations, and especially wild oats, competed strongly with the crop. Also, land that has grown a crop of wheat and is seeded again to grain, may have nutrients present which are not available to the growing crop. "It is obvious that on land devoted to a grain-fallow rotation, summerfallow becomes necessary, to release plant nutrients," said D. A. Brown, assistant superintendent, Brandon Experimental Farm. "Good soil, even though old, appears to retain a fairly high fertility level, but the release of plant food lessens as the years go by, and summerfallow becomes more necessary. Legume crops and manure also help to maintain available plant nutrients."

This observation is based, in part at least, on two four-year rotations established at Brandon in 1911. Both rotations followed the sequence fallow, wheat, wheat, oats, but one of them had 12 tons of manure per acre applied every four years. As at Lethbridge and Indian Head, the yields of wheat on fallow are being maintained, and even showed a slight upturn. Yields on the manured portion were slightly better than the unmanured, but not enough better to cover the costs of applying the manure. The 28-year average profit per acre for the unmanured portion was \$3.83, compared with \$3.70 for the manured.

In both rotations the yields on the second and third crops after fallow were seriously damaged by the competition of wild oats. In an adjoining six-year rotation, including three years

of hay, yields of the second and third crops following fallow have been better. The increased yield is attributed to two factors: the reduced wild oats competition, and the increased release of plant nutrients in a rotation including hay crops.

**T**HE present-day problem of fallowing cropland to renovate it, takes on added interest in the light of statements made in the 1889 report of the Dominion Experimental Farms by Angus MacKay, who was then superintendent of the Experimental Farm at Indian Head, in the part of the North-West Territories that is now Saskatchewan:

"For several years after the country came open for settlement everyone imagined that grain would grow, no matter how put in, but now the man is devoid of reason that thinks he is sure of a crop without any exertion on his part," wrote Mr. MacKay. "Our seasons point to only one way in which we can, in all seasons, expect to reap something. It is quite within the bounds of probabilities that some other and more successful method may be found, but at present I submit that fallowing the land is the best preparation to ensure a crop. Fallowing land in this country is not required for the purpose of renovating it, as is the case with worn-out lands in the East (no longer entirely true.—ed.); and it is a question yet unsettled, how much or how little the fallow should be worked; but as we have only one wet season during the year, it is found beyond doubt that the land must be plowed the first time before this wet season is over, if we expect to reap a crop the next year."

Sixty-five years later, a plant scientist of another generation points out anew the importance of summerfallow, though for a rather different reason: "Land that has not eroded and that was rich in its virgin state, still retains a fairly high level of fertility, but the store of readily available nutrients has been substantially reduced," says D. A. Brown. "Summerfallow releases a fresh store of these nutrients, and assures yields on fallow as high as we have ever had."

Mr. Brown points out that successive stubble crops produce less grain, especially wheat, than they did in the early years. For this reason, and because of a growing weed problem, wheat has lost favor as a second crop. It is less profitable than it was in earlier years, and an increasing number of farmers are turning to a straight wheat-fallow rotation. "This rotation might be practised successfully and indefinitely on good soil, provided erosion is prevented, all the crop residue is worked into the soil, and fertilizer is used to maintain the level of available nutrients," he says.

Few would deny that where soil and climate make it economically feasible, mixed rotations, including grasses and legumes, are desirable. The time may come when declining soil fertility will become a critical factor in crop production on our prairie soils and force us to resort to grassland farming. In the meantime, however, farmers on fertile prairie soils are likely to continue to grow profitable wheat crops for many years, if they control their weeds and do not permit erosion to snatch fertility out of their fields. V



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Last summer before he died at 14 years of age, Pine Coulee Britisher 33rd, sire of many females in the herd, was still a good-looking bull.

## He Doesn't Follow The Crowd

Continued from page 12

of all, scale and weight and amount of bone are considered. Then, because every cow in his herd must raise her own calf, the dam of the prospective herd sire must be a good milker, and the kind that raises a calf every year. Most of all, size is the characteristic about which he absolutely refuses to compromise.

JUST because the primary purpose of cattle in agriculture is to convert farm-grown feeds into beef, Mr. Williams is just as painstaking about his land as he is about his herd.

His soil, light, sandy, and likely to blow away again if ever left uncovered, is never left bare in solid blocks. Crested wheatgrass has been the salvation of many of these acres, in tying down the precious topsoil. It has not only held the soil in place but has yielded good crops of hay and pasture for the herd. Three hundred and fifty acres are still down to native grass, used largely for pasture, and another 60 acres are in brome and crested wheatgrass. Though the farm is in the chinook belt, and the cattle can often graze out the winter through, he still retains vivid memories of 1919 and 1936, when feed became so scarce that he was forced to sell good cows for \$10 a head. He says if he got caught short of feed again, his conscience wouldn't let him blame the weather. To be sure that he doesn't have to blame himself, 250 tons of hay can be seen around the yard, in covered stacks, or stored in the barn—enough for a couple of bad years should they come.

Always on the lookout for better methods of making his marginal land pay, it was 11 years ago that he broke away from his lifetime practice of fallowing fields between crops. He hasn't fallowed a field since.

Born and raised in a district where fallowing was an established and accepted practice, he and many of his neighbors had always summerfallowed regularly. When he finally decided that the land could not stand to be bare and quit the practice, friends regarding him curiously, protested, "There is no one better schooled than you in summerfallowing."

With only 600 of his 1,600 acres in crop each year, he admits that he could increase the farm income in favorable years by cropping more. Instead, he has selected the heaviest and most fertile land, and by careful use of a crop rotation, and strip farming, he keeps it well protected from erosion.

Each strip is 20 rods wide, and across the entire cropped section of the farm, the strips of wheat alternate with strips of rye. Wheat is seeded in the spring, harvested in the fall, and rye seeded directly in the stubble to produce a cover crop for winter. The following year, the rye is harvested and the stubble left to protect the field till the following spring.

Mr. Williams lives in Claresholm, 14 miles from the farm, and his brother Joe lives and works on the farm. Despite his age, which could easily justify retirement, his interest and enthusiasm won't let him stay away. Winter and summer, he is on the farm every day, feeding cattle and weighing calves and planning his next moves in maintaining a permanent agriculture on his Alberta farm. His two-fold objective of saving the soil fertility, and breeding big, rugged Hereford cattle, has brought him nothing but success so far. V



A group of heifers visit the water hole during the heat of summer.



## Reward of the Stalk

Continued from page 8

hanging against the low log bulk-head of the stand. After school this afternoon, Mr. Tarbell would have them, and the Dexter would be Bright's.

He did not look at the pelts too long. They aroused a dream, too, but not a pleasant dream. If John Coreau ever found out how he had taken those mushers, there would be trouble. They were not John Coreau's, not really, but in a troubling way, Bright recognized the Canuck's right to them. He told himself again that the meadow did not belong to John, nor did the creek. Game belonged to the man who took it. But there was an unwritten law, an understanding among hunters, a kind of a man-to-man agreement . . .

Bright circled the swamp well downwind, so the buck would not take his scent and scare. He didn't know what he'd do if, after all these weeks of stalking and planning and preparing, he should be cheated of the kill.

So carefully and slowly did he work out of the swale that he was almost late for high school.

Bright never went to the stand in the afternoon. The buck left the swamp for another run for his nightly feeding in the orchards. Bright dashed from the last class, almost upsetting Mord Tatro the janitor, in his eagerness to reach the hardware store. The Dexter still stood in the rack gleaming in the slanting sunshine, whispering its special promise to Bright.

INSIDE, the store smelled of sweaty hunting khaki and gun oil and strong tobacco. It was noisy with deer talk.

"I'll bring the rest of the pelts right over, Mr. Tarbell," Bright said. "You won't trade the gun before, will you?"

Mr. Tarbell laughed heartily. "By snum, boy, you're anxious. No, I won't trade her. I reckon the Dexter's yours sure enough."

Old Man Dilby, who was seventy and still shot ball and patch for the city venison buyers, hooked a horny thumb in his cartridge belt. "Got a buck spotted, hev ye, Bright?"

"Yes, sir. A fourteen-spiker," Bright said proudly and added cautiously: "He's mine."

"Course he is; iffen ye drap him fust. But I 'low you got him to rights. I d'clare you Martins is all smart hunters."

Bright reckoned it was the nicest thing that had ever been said to him. He wished only that his father or Grantha could have heard it. Somehow it wasn't the hunt or the kill that really counted. It was living up to what they expected of him and wanted for him.

He went to the stand for the cured skins. They were dry and soft, the silky fur turned inside. At home he threw the string of pelts conspicuously on the kitchen drainer, wanting Grantha to admire them. Then he went to his bedroom to change into his denim chore clothes.

"Bright!"

He slid into his blanket jumper, left his cowhide boots unlaced.

"Yes, sir," Bright said in the kitchen.

Grantha sat straight and grim in his rocker before the kitchen range. The pelts were in his lap. Bright noticed then that the old man was not alone. At the side of the stove, puffing gravely on a curved pipe sat John Coreau, the trapper. The grey pipe smoke hung thick about them as if they had not moved for a long time.

"Bright," Grantha croaked without preamble, looking into his eyes, "where'd these skins come from?"

"South meadow," Bright said steadily. He could never lie to Grantha, no matter what the cost. "I trapped them."

"You know I let John here trap south meadow this year."

"Yes, sir. But it's our meadow. It's the best one of the creek. I—I just had to have those skins, sir."

Grantha rocked hard. "John's tally stakes were in the runs, weren't they? Seems if you took what wasn't rightly yours. A harsh man could say you poached, boy."

Bright knew that he had done a terrible thing. It had not seemed too awful at the time. The Dexter, the deer it would kill, the fellowship it would open for him with the big-game hunters, the pride and approval it would bring to his father's face when he came home, very soon now, had seemed worth everything.

"Huntin', boy," Grantha said and drew savagely on his cob, "ain't jest killin'. It's bein' fair an' hon'able to your game an' your fellow hunter. The kill, Bright, is only the reward o' the stalk. Jest it bein' our meadow don't signify. 'Twas John Coreau found out



the rat holes an' bucked the wicked creek current in the bitter dawn a-tendin' 'em. 'Twas his limbs ached come night, his time an' money. An' John makes his livin' a-trappin'. The kill is rightly his. Bright, you done him a hurt."

John Coreau sighed and shuffled his feet. "Ah don' lak mak de trouble fo' Bright," he said. "Ah jes' want mah skins. She is mine, by gar, Gramp, suh."

"Take 'em, John," Grantha said and tossed the pelts to him. "Bright," he said, ceasing his rocking. "You owe John time an' money. You got to make it up to him."

"Ah t'ink Bright she do him no mo', suh," the trapper mumbled and tamped his pipe.

"No he won't. An' he'll know why. Bright, commencin' tomorrer at dawn an' fer a full week, you're goin' with John on the trap line. You're goin' to do his chores. I reckon then you'll know what you took from him."

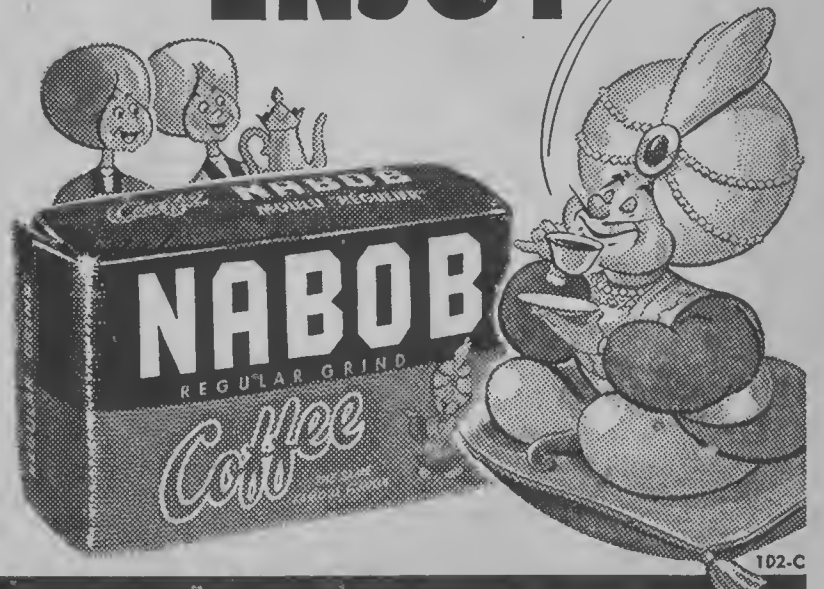
"The deer season opens tomorrow. I've been waiting—" Bright began.

Grantha tossed his white head with impatience. "Don't I know it opens," he growled. "Oh, don't I though!" He rubbed his knee ague and did not look



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at the ten-point head. "Bright, fer you, you got to earn your right to shoot a man's game. So far, you ain't. Now get at the chores, boy."

Bright stumbled to his room. He did not want them to see that wetness in his eyes which he had almost forgotten could burn there. He sat, hunched and staring, contemplating this awful thing which had happened.

IT never occurred to Bright to disobey Grantha Martin. When his father had left to train Commandos in woodcraft for the Army, and his mother had gone back to nursing to help out, he had told them goodbye and promised. He could not break that promise now. His father's last letter had hinted that he'd be home for a visit, sometime soon; it had wished Bright good hunting, and Bright could almost read between the lines the yearning for a week of shooting again. But he was glad that his father was not home now. He could not bear to see the shame which would be in his eyes.

He tried to close his mind to his disgrace, as he dressed in the dark the next morning. John Coreau waited for him on the bleak, cold creek. A fine snow had fallen. Tracking would be perfect.

The trapper, small and wiry, smelling of onions, was huddled into a sheepskin coat on the stern thwart.

"Row," he said, "'way 'long to de sou' meadow."

Bright tried to make himself feel glad that he was rowing, keeping warm instead of inactive and freezing. The boat was waterlogged and ancient. It was a long, aching pull against the current.

John Coreau from time to time took a bracing nip from a flask, then breathed vapor into the frosty dawn air.

"Stop!" he commanded after twenty minutes. "Firs' tally dar, him. Boy, pull hup de trap."

John held the boat against the withered brown bank. Bright cracked

man, one of the best of the market hunters, harsh only when he had a drink in him. There were not many of his kind left in the woods. Most of the hunters now were sportsmen from the cities.

With the sullen sunrise, their shots commenced. Bright listened with bitter resentment, the efficient snap of the high-power .32's, the vicious blast of .45-70's and, occasionally, the mean sting of the little .22 calibres.

'Around Mr. Tarbell's stove they called the .22's "wounders." Bright reckoned that, no matter what, he would never shoot at deer with a .22.

He muffled his oar strokes and listened intently. But he could hear no shots from the direction of Mint Slang where his buck would be passing now. There was a warm promise in the silence, an assurance that all was not lost. The open season was one day longer than his punishment. He had one morning—if he could somehow get the Dexter. Deep down, he felt a faint hopeful something, almost an idea.

They took five rats. Coreau's farewell at the schoolhouse-road ford was kindly. But Bright had no ears for it. He hated the Canuck with all his heart.

MORD TATRO, hiding the quid which he was not supposed to chew when the kids were in the schoolhouse, left off sweeping Frosh B. He cocked a chinless head, like a robin listening for lawn worms, and gave consideration to what Bright Martin had asked him.

"Dunno," Mord croaked. "Like you say, the trustees 'low me ten dollars the month fer help. I s'ppose you could broom an' such after school an' Sat'days. I'd sure admire the time to get me after a deer. That was your strong argument, Bright, you cute un. Trouble is payin' in advance. I ain't got no expense money comin' till next Thursday."

"It would be all right," Bright said, fighting down his eagerness. "There'd still be one more day in the deer season."

"I might've knowed there was huntin' behind it," the janitor nodded. "I got a famous buck located myself, Bright."

"Where?" Bright was immediately worried.

"You know better'n to ask that," Mr. Tatro chuckled. "Broom her good, Bright, you want to be certain o' that money."

It made him late for chores. But by hurrying and wasting less time than usual playing with Catamount, he managed to reach the supper table in time.

He was dead tired and almost sick worrying about his buck, the memory of those surrounding shots in his brain. But he did not whimper. Grantha's punishment was hard but it was fair. In a way, taking your medicine when you were wrong was part of being a man, too. He avoided Grantha's eyes, not wanting to see the barrier which he knew must be there. He was glad only that his father was not at home. Somehow he could not have stood that.

"Good hunting," his father had written, "good hunting, Bright. There is a deer swale on Moosalamoo that I've saved for just us. When my job is finished, son, it will be a proud day . . ."

Each night of the deer week, Bright lay sleepless in his bed trying to convince himself that no one would find his remote deer run, that the Dexter



"Yes I know it's green, officer, I'm atoning for a red one I passed back there."

the edge ice and pulled the set. The trap at the end of the chain was unsprung. He reached into the frigid water and reset it in the muddy prepared niche, placing a carrot bait beyond the steel jaws, nervous under the Canuck's scowl. He was glad of the warming exercise again.

"Ah t'ink de rat she go from dat hole, him," Coreau said. "Ah t'ink ah know where she go. Poach is bad t'ing, Bright Martin."

Bright did not answer. John Coreau was considered a mild, inoffensive



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would wait for him until Mr. Tatro paid over the school-chore money. The janitor, though he hunted each afternoon, had not killed his buck yet.

John Coreau brought his rifle each morning now. It was an old Army model, shooting shells which were unobtainable since the war. John had had to load his own shells, and he did not think much of them.

Once, near the end of the trap line, the Canuck had suddenly tensed and signalled for Bright to stop rowing. They lay in the current, listening to the crashing in the willows. Whatever it was, it was big—big as a buck—and they were not far from the Mint Slang. Bright had almost screamed when John had slowly raised the rifle.

But it was not Bright's buck. It was a spikehorn.

John shot and missed. "Ol' ca'tridge Ah mak no good, him," he grinned wryly, "but Ah t'ink mo' buck near. Ah reckon Ah get me good gun sometim', wit de bullet Ah can buy."

ONE afternoon Bright hurried his school work and hurried to the stand. He had to know. But he found no hunter's tracks leading into the swale. And in the soft snow carpet on the runway, pointed daintily toward the swamp, were the cloven hoof-prints he knew so well.

His heart welled within him. On Friday he would be free; he would have the gun. He would come here on that last morning, lie prone behind the screen, aim carefully, quietly.

He took the catalogue page from the crate. It was crisp in his fingers, had weight and heft almost as if it were the gun itself. He reached for his belt knife and with it stuck the gun pictures to the log wall. Then he sat back, hands clasped over his knees, and just looked at the catalogue page . . .

Bright worked hard all the next afternoon. There were windows to wash and ashes to haul. He could hardly wait for Mr. Tatro. But the janitor came at sundown, looking sour, his gun broken and cased.

"A feller from Middlebury got my buck," he growled, "not twenty rods from my stand. Here's your money, Bright, I should've stayed put here an' saved it."

Bright forgot to say his thanks. He took the ten dollars and ran to Tarbell's store. The hunters would be congregating, living the day again around the stove. He would march in, proud, trying not to whoop. With a gun like the Dexter he would be a man. Men did not whoop. In two days, at grey dawn, the gun would do the whooping.

He laid the money on Mr. Tarbell's worn counter, annoyed at the Ripton man who haggled over the price of tin stovepipe.

"Here's the rest for the gun, Mr. Tarbell."

The storekeeper regarded Bright quizzically, muttering to himself.

"Land o' Betsy, boy," Mr. Tarbell said, sort of quietly, "you didn't show up last week. So—Bright, I sold that Dexter rifle."

"Don't ride me, Mr. Tarbell," Bright grinned. "Not about that."

"I swear I ain't, boy. Look in the winder."

Bright ran to the store front. The gun rack was bare. He did not go back

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# POSTUM

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into the store, not even when Mr. Tarbell called, wanting to explain. He couldn't, he just couldn't.

Grantha was waiting for him at home, his old eyes alight and excited. A letter lay on the table beside the rocker, and Grantha was smoking one of the cigars which Bright's father had given to him last Christmas.

"Guess what?" the old man cried.

Bright did not even try to guess. Grantha gave him no time.

"Tomorrer," Grantha croaked jubilantly, "tomorrer, Bright, your dad's comin' home on leave. Bright, your dad, my boy . . . he's comin' home."

Bright did his chores. But he could never remember doing them. There was a point beyond which you could not suffer and have feeling, like the body-freezing that the old woodsmen described—a dull state of living in which motion was mechanical and there was no thought, no hope at all.

It was not quite true dawn when John Coreau and Bright reached the end of the trap line the next morning. Seven rats lay in the boat, almost a ten-dollar catch. Coreau was pleased. His family could live for a whole week on ten dollars, and there were many weeks of cold winter ahead. He extinguished the pale lantern, and the forest blackness of Mint Slang seemed to move close and hover over the little boat.

"Skin de rats, Bright," John grunted. "Den Ah shoots dat venison fo' Gramp'. Ah been stalk, me. Is twenty-fi' dollaire, ho!"

"I—I left my knife somewhere."

"Dat nice leathaire-handly knife? Tak John's boy. Today, Ah got de gun what no miss de buck, ho-ho!"

Bright commenced the dressing, working fast before the soft fat bodies froze. Coreau took another nip from his flask and poled the boat to the bank of the slang. Then he took his gun from the canvas case.

In the growing grey light, Bright could make out the gun which would not miss. It was the Dexter .32 special. He could never forget that worn spot and the scratches in the bluing. His hatred of the little Canuck flooded him again with blinding bitterness. The onion-smelling trapper personified everything that had come to defeat him, to cheat him of his gun and now of his buck. For Bright reckoned he knew where the shooting stand would be. They were on the edge of the swale. John Coreau was a good woodsman. Nothing ever escaped him.

THEY lay on spruce boughs bedded on the soft new snow. Bright could just distinguish the familiar details of the stand, the old store crate and the catalogue page, fluttering against the bulkhead. A squirrel searched under the leaves; chickadees grubbed and chirped in the birch and bush hazel.

The Dexter lay cradled in the trapper's mittened left palm, covering the deer run. Bright prayed that the buck would not come. It was his; the kill was his. But no matter what. Bright knew that he would not let this man, whom he hated so, shoot his deer.

"This is my stand," Bright said.

Coreau corked his flask and breathed a sour breath. "A-r-r," he growled and

wiped his mouth with a bunched mitten. "Ah t'ink no! You poach de rat. Ah t'ink you tell de lie too."

"You're the one that's poaching," Bright said stubbornly. "I found this runaway and built this stand last summer."

"Tak de medicine lak de man. Don' be mad wit' me, boy. Is yo' Gramp' do this. Don't spoil mah shots. Is livin' fo' John, boy."

Bright kept sullenly still then. It was light enough to see the gun picture. It hung above the trapper's woollen-sock hat, crushing against it as Coreau peered over the levelled gun. But the picture evoked no dreams, no anticipations now. The Dexter belonged to another. He would have to watch while another killed his game with his gun. But he had no intention of letting that happen.

He reached under the crate where the ground was not frozen. He scratched the cold earth and found a small stone. His mouth was grim and tight. John Coreau would not shoot his buck. Bright had only to toss the stone or to cry out. Deer scared for less than that.

A squirrel chattered madly and vanished.

"Shh! De buck, she come," whispered Coreau and swung the gun up the runway.

Bright could see his deer then. It was suddenly in the forest blending with it, its tail quivering, picking its way daintily toward the stand. The



"5 1/4 inches. You're improving."

catalogue page fluttered into Coreau's vision. He batted it away. "Fou'teen points," Coreau chuckled jubilantly. "Ba gar! Mah fam'ly live good dis winter, yes, suh!"

The buck had paused, browsing at a black birch. It stood square before the muzzle of the gun. The catalogue page fluttered again. The trapper reached for it, making a small hiss of annoyance. Bright had only to toss the stone to really annoy. But, oddly, he could not throw it.

Something held him back. His brain was pounding with strange thoughts, with familiar words: "Take your medicine like a man." "Huntin', boy, is bein' fair an' honorable." Yes, that was it. That and something else. John Coreau was a market hunter. The buck was, to him, not a trophy, but food and clothing and security for a few more weeks of the long winter. Coreau, in a way, was poaching now, but Bright reckoned that his dad, or





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Grantha, wouldn't call it poaching. "You done him a hurt, Bright. You got to make it up to him."

Gently, then, Bright dropped the stone into the snow. He lay still beside John Coreau and closed his eyes. He did not want to see the kill. Shoot, oh, shoot, John Coreau! He felt very miserable. There was nothing pleasant in the whole world save perhaps remembering the good thing which he had just done. He braced himself for the shot which should have been his, which he had so desperately wanted to tell his father and Grantha about. He did not see John Coreau's eyes dart to the dropped stone or his bare trigger hand reach in annoyance for the knife which held the catalogue page to the bulkhead.

John Coreau was suddenly whispering imperatively in his ear. The Dexter was sliding suddenly into his grip,

pressing against his shoulder as he had always dreamed it would.

"De knife she say you not lie, boy," Coreau whispered. "Ah t'ink dat buck yours, Bright Martin."

"No," Bright said. "No, John, your family . . ."

"Coreau she poach never," the trapper grunted with fierce quick pride. "Shoot!"

Bright gave himself to the Dexter, became part of it. He lined the sights on the great buck. You did not shoot at vague movement or at sound. You waited, stilling your eagerness, picking your shot. He knew these things by instinct.

The buck tossed its antlers and sniffed the crisp forest air. Its tail flag was lifting. That strange strong death smell assailed it once again. Suddenly it bounded to the retreat.

Bright pressed the trigger. The Dexter whooped.

There was a brief thrashing on the floor of the forest; then quiet. The squirrel advanced cautiously again to its nut patch. Bright hefted the Dexter with lingering reverence, as if to impress its perfection upon himself forever. Silently he passed it to the trapper.

"Your buck," said John Coreau. "De perfect shot, dat."

But nothing had changed. The buck was John Coreau's. It settled a debt, sort of, a debt that a man would want to pay. Bright stood up. There was a footpath away from the forest beyond the swale. Oddly, he did not feel miserable or dejected as he strode away.

BRIGHT was deep in the swale brush, walking with a new pride, when John Coreau caught up with

him. There was puzzlement on the trapper's face, a dawning light in his eye.

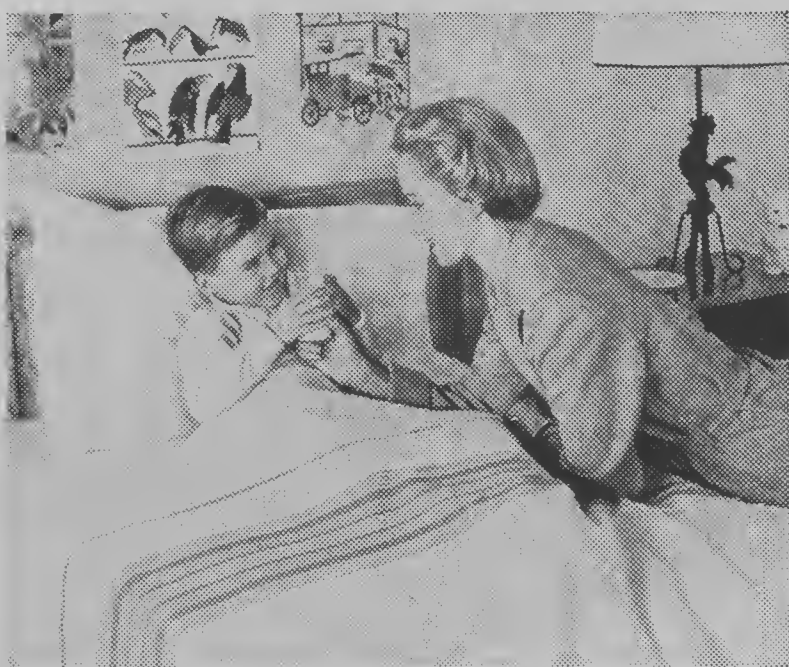
"Ah buy de Dexter gun fo' Gramp' when de knee don't let him walk," John Coreau said. "'Fo' man Ah know,' Gramp' say, 'de gun fo' man Ah know.' Ba gar!" Comprehension suddenly flooded Coreau's face. "Ba gar! Fo' man Ah know! Boy, Ah see you drop dat stone. Ba gar, Bright Martin. Ah reckon I got you' gun."

Bright let the Dexter cradle into his bent arm, thrilling to its perfect balance. He did not go back to the buck. The reward of the stalk was not always the kill.

John Coreau could sell it anywhere for twenty-five dollars. Grantha's buck would come from another place, a kind of a saved place on the side of Moosalamoo, where two men would be hunting perhaps this very afternoon.

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# Solon: An Arab Stallion

*The true story of a beautiful Arab horse who found friends a long way from home, as told*

by MICHAEL LIDDELL KING

IT was only a newspaper paragraph, but it reminded me of Solon, the most remarkable horse I've heard about in 20 years. The newspaper report told of the two Arab stallions that had been presented to the Queen by King Feisal. And the writer went on to mention that it was unlikely that they would be used for ceremonial appearances because, he said, "the breed is far too highly strung . . ."

Well, that's just how it was with Solon. As all this happened long before my time, when another queen was on the throne, I can best say what followed, then, by giving the story as it was told to me by Miss Dorothy Cullen, the granddaughter of Solon's owner.

"My grandfather," began Miss Cullen, "could never resist a horse sale. He lived in a remote village in Yorkshire where many perfect horses are bred, and on this occasion he went to a sale in York without any intention of buying a horse. Indeed, because of his love of horses, the family always had one, if not more, too many.

"At York my grandfather noticed a crowd around a beautiful animal, and learnt that it was for sale. It was an Arab stallion and not only had he eaten nothing since his arrival, but none of the men dared to enter the strong 'cage' by which he was confined, because he violently upset all water buckets and kicked over nosebags and other offerings of food.

"By now my grandfather had discovered that this Arab stallion had been sent from London. It was known that his name was Solon, and that he had been presented to a British Army officer by an Arab sheik. Unhappily, the officer had died on the voyage home, and Solon had been bought for use in public professions, on account of his most unusual beauty and perfect action.

"He had, however, created an incident near the Mansion House during the Lord Mayor's Show by *insisting* on leading instead of following the pace-maker. Once in front, he had behaved perfectly—except that he would go on at the quick Arab trot . . .

"After that he was again for sale.

"My grandfather's offerings of apples and sugar were accepted with good manners (clearly the horse was used to them), and a little later he accepted a meal, but showed signs of agitation when my grandfather attempted to leave him.

"SO, with misgivings, my grandfather decided that he must buy one more horse, and borrowing a saddle, he began a long ride home, a train journey being out of the question for Solon.

"After many miles his new owner dismounted and shared apples and sandwiches with the tired horse. And then, being tired also, my grandfather dropped off to sleep. Waking, he was touched to find the horse sheltering him from the sun.

"Solon lived for some years an aloof and exclusive existence of his own choosing. Only my grandfather and my mother, then aged eight—were his selected owners. When my grandfather was gardening, Solon would follow him about, sniffing the roses. He had a real love of flowers and children, and I do believe he looked forward to our Christmas tree parties. He liked the sound of bells, too.

"He had a loose box and paddock to himself, and his boon companions were a collie dog and a raven who always slept on his back. He would allow the stable boy to manage him, but not the groom.

"Solon learnt to be driven in the dog-cart by my mother, who was then too young to ride, and he never behaved badly with her, or my grandfather. Unfortunately, he never behaved properly with anyone else.

"Once, in the dim early morning, a woman called to ask if a doctor could be brought to her husband who was very ill. My grandfather was away and the stable man not there, but my mother, then a resourceful ten-year-old, undid the stable door. Next she opened the coach house, and holding Solon by the chin, pushed him between the shafts of the dog-cart.

"But the horse-collar did baffle her. As she stood helplessly by it, Solon solved the problem by advancing and thrusting his head into the collar. Then he was replaced between the shafts and his harness was buckled on by the stranger. The five miles to the doctor's house were quickly covered, and the doctor, amazed to find that this urgent call had been brought to his door by a child driving such a lively Arab, arrived in time.

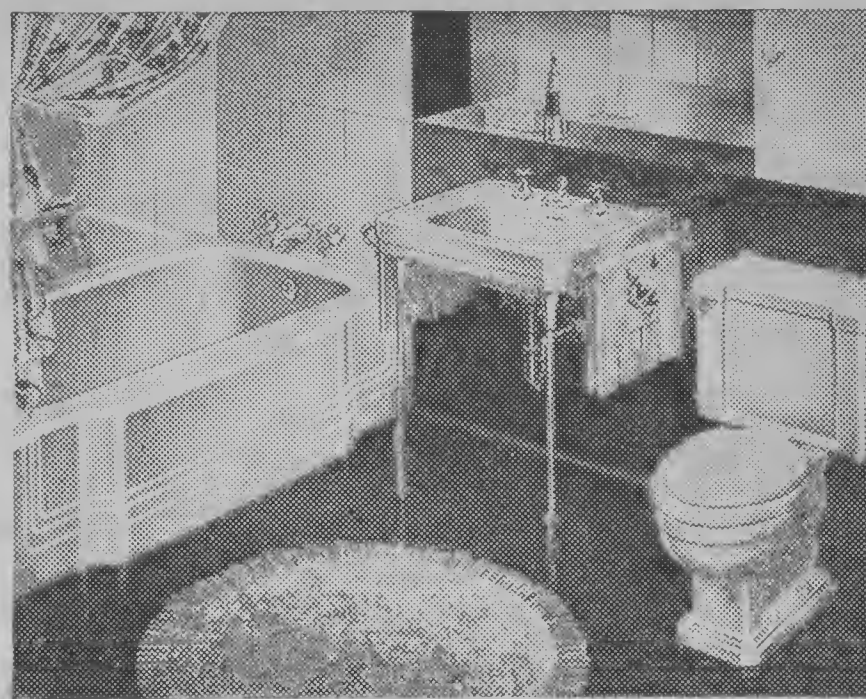
"Save for a white star on his forehead, Solon was jet black. He was very tall, with tiny hoofs. His superb appearance and intelligence brought many offers from both admirers and dealers.

"To our sorrow he became the victim of a severe rheumatic condition, and after futile efforts to cure him, it was decided that he should not suffer any longer.

"Very early one hot August morning, my grandfather went with his gun to the paddock, hoping he might be unnoticed during the dawn chorus of the birds. It was Solon's custom to listen to the bird-song, his head raised; and usually, on seeing my grandfather, he would paw the ground in greeting before going quickly to his side.

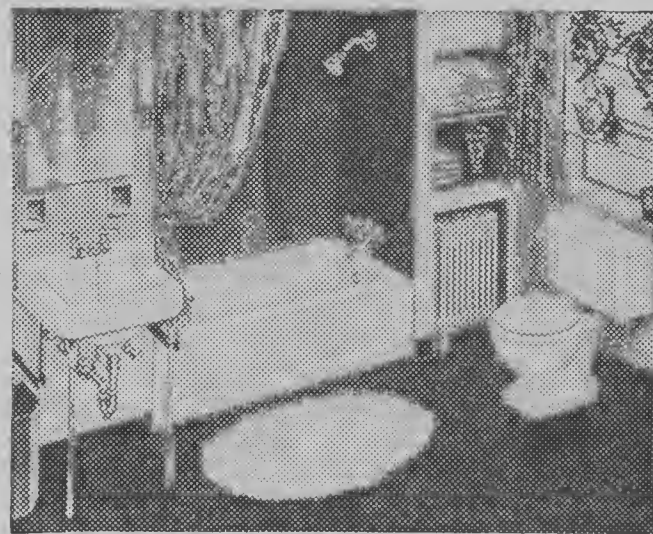
"But that morning he only glanced at my grandfather, and then he did something he'd never done before—he turned and walked away from the man to the far end of the paddock . . .

"This Arab stallion was such a wonderful creature that perhaps it is not surprising that we were not alone in our sadness. His close friend, the raven that used to sleep on Solon's back, died exactly a week later."



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# The Countrywoman

## Credo of a Canadian

*I believe in Canada, with pride in her past, belief in her present and faith in her future.*

*I believe in the quality of Canadian life, and in the character of Canadian institutions.*

*I believe in the Commonwealth of Nations within whose bounds we have found freedom, and outside which our national life would lose its independent being.*

*I believe in our abiding friendship with our nearest neighbors; and honest friendship without either the subservience or the mimicry which must impair partnership.*

*I believe that Canada is one, and that if our minds dwell on those things which its parts have in common, we can find the unity of the whole.*

*I believe that with sound work, the spirit of a team, and an awareness of ourselves, we can look forward to achievements beyond our imagining.*

—VINCENT MASSEY, in "On Being Canadian," published by Dent & Sons.

## Citizenship Day

**D**URING the past few years, the custom has been growing, to have representative leaders of the community attend formal ceremonies, marking the presentation of citizenship papers to new Canadians.

These ceremonies have usually taken place quietly in the office of a judge of a superior, circuit, county or district court, where attendance is necessarily limited. The applicants, previously examined as to qualifications and approved, each openly renounces allegiance to any foreign sovereign or state and declares his individual Oath of Loyalty as a Canadian. After a few fitting words on the privileges and responsibilities of a citizen, the judge formally presents each applicant with his Certificate of Citizenship. Noting the presence and evident interest of other leading citizens in these impressive ceremonies, some judges have in recent years invited a few representatives of organizations to add their word of welcome to the "new" Canadian.

For well-nigh a century, Canadians have clung to the celebration of May 24 as "Victoria Day" and a holiday. The preceding day, since 1899 in Canada, has been especially marked by teachers, schools and departments of education as "Empire Day." In many and various ways it has been made memorable for children through ceremonies, improvement projects, stories and drama based on Canada's history and the richness of her heritage.

Queen Victoria has been dead for a half century, yet the holiday—with a slight adjustment on the calendar, remains. We have dropped "Empire" from our vocabulary in so far as it applies to our status or to the Commonwealth of Nations, of which we are a part. We rightly persist in its observance as a day on which we pause to remind, not only the young and the newcomers but ourselves of Canada's story and to affirm our citizenship.

Citizenship Day will be celebrated on "the Friday preceding Victoria Day," which this year is May 21. This will be its fifth widespread observance across Canada. Prime Minister St. Laurent, addressing the House of Commons on April 28, 1950, said that in concurrence with all the provincial premiers it was urged that the day be marked by: "suitable exercises in schools and by public-spirited organizations in order that we may become more deeply conscious of our citizenship and all that it implies."

Helpful suggestions for types of programs are offered in a little booklet just published by the Canadian Citizenship Council, 148 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa—entitled: "Let's Observe Our Canadian Citizenship."

## The custom of honoring our citizenship broadens out—notable address given by Dr. Hilda Neatby to Manitoba teachers' convention

by AMY J. ROE

In some communities a particular organization may take the lead in the development, promotion and conduct of ceremonies: in others they may be jointly worked out by several groups and in others be initiated by a committee of civic government. As yet in Canada, there is no set pattern. One group taking the lead to get the idea started should not come to regard Citizenship Day ceremonies as something particularly their domain in the future. It should always be remembered that "Citizenship is everybody's business."

Types of programs suitable for average, large and small communities are given with definite suggestions as to possible guests, speakers, subject matter, music and choir selections, recitations as well as platform decorations and possible pageantry of national dress of various ethnic groups. Those in charge are urged to make the best possible use of press and radio services to augment their efforts and to encourage libraries to display books and other materials on Canada, the Commonwealth and democracy. The suggested features are for adult programs. No attempt is made to offer suggestions to school authorities as it is realized that they have had long experience in selections and suitable programs for pupils of different ages.

## "More for the Mind"

**D**R. HILDA NEATBY, Professor of History, University of Saskatchewan, member of the Massey Commission on the Arts and Sciences in Canada, wrote a book "So Little For the Mind," published late in 1953 by Clarke Irwin Company, Toronto. The first edition was quickly exhausted and there have been several since. It has been widely reviewed and discussed in the press and over radio. Some, unfortunately, did not wait to read the book thoroughly before criticizing the author or her treatment of subject matter. Others got sidetracked on technical points or took their

opinions second hand from a reviewer who had failed to grasp her underlying argument.

Interest in the author's comment and criticism of things educational, as they exist in the provinces of Canada, the book's wide sale and the storm of discussion raised, surprised educationists, publishers and Dr. Neatby herself. Usually books on education have only a small sale and too often are left unread upon a library shelf.

Dr. Neatby was guest speaker at the Manitoba Educational Association Annual Convention held during Easter week in Winnipeg. She gave three addresses—two to general sessions: "More For the Mind" and "Should Teaching Be a Learned Profession" at which her voice was amplified and carried to an overflow audience which packed a second large hall; one to a small select meeting of music teachers on "The Artist In Canada."

It is not possible to give the full text of her first speech. An attempt is made here to select some of her main points, lifted from their context and slightly rearranged (with due apologies to Dr. Neatby).

"The humanities—those subjects for which the human mind has a natural hunger—are the academic distressed areas today . . . There is a sense of universal wrongness about us and we don't seem to be able to do anything about it . . . Culture is an internal thing. It includes character, gifts of thought and feeling. Matthew Arnold, who was startlingly modern, wrote of 'Listening to all the voice of the human spirit.'

"Then stress was on 'reason' and the 'will of God.' These things are now out of fashion and don't much come into our calculations on education. Education had its origin in the love of perfection . . . but perfection cannot be achieved while the individual remains isolated. He belongs to and works with a group. The old social groups, the family and the clan have been breaking down. The modern machine age smashes as well as builds.

"In thought, action and vision, the individual may be beyond the group. A conception of the thinking person has been expressed as 'one who can endure solitude and enjoy leisure.' He should be in the group, not out—integrated but not dissolved. Within the group there should be exchange as well as sharing. Withdrawal (Please turn to page 70)



Looking out over Herring Cove, from a spot in Fundy National Park, in southeastern New Brunswick.



Examples of leather work and tooling done by the more advanced students at Fundy Park classes.



Using native New Brunswick woods, craftsmen turned out many fine and attractive pieces.

# For a Family Vacation -- It's Fundy Park

by VERA L. DAYE

**H**ERE'S the holiday season rolling around again. And likely as not there's the usual family argument as to plans.

Father may want to go fishing. Mother would like a trip to the mountains, where the scenery is on the grand scale. The teen-agers have their hearts set on some place "where there's something doing," which really means that there will be other young people about. As for the children, they will give their vote any time for a camp beside water—be it river, lake or sea shore. There they will be able to swim, have fun playing on the beach, searching for colored stones or shells.

How wonderful it would be if you could combine the ideas and satisfy everybody concerned! Perhaps by advance planning, suggestion and skilful exercise of diplomacy you can offer—not a "choice" but a part of each one's

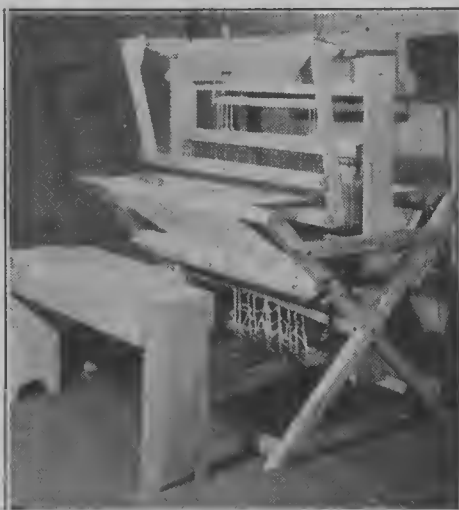
ideal, wrapped up in one complete packet.

Where and how?

There's a number of Canada's famous and attractive parks, scattered across this wide domain. One or more of them are accessible to the people of any province. Do you know their attractions and the facilities they offer to travellers? Why not find out? You may secure booklets by writing to the National Parks Branch, Ottawa, or to the superintendent of a particular park. If you intend visiting another province or unfamiliar spots in your home province, write to the Travel Bureau in the capital city. Get maps of routes from oil service companies. Plot your course both going and returning so as to take in places of interest.

The motor car has greatly changed our social habits. It is no longer a

novel thing to drive several hundreds, or even a thousand miles on a holiday or business trip. There are some occasions, such as a convention at a distant place, a visit "back home" or a family reunion for mother or dad,



Weaving is done on New Brunswick-made floor loom.

which could be made into a delightful holiday trip for various members of the family. Having some idea of how you may get extra enjoyment—some things which you may see and do along the way or at the other end of the journey, which will enrich the experience greatly.

If a long trip is in the making this year, by all means plan well in advance. Write away for those booklets. Mark spots of historic interest or of special beauty. Secure from tourist bureaus a list of approved accommodation. Learn what you can about the vacation activities planned for the season. Possibly some member of the family will want to make a stop-over at some point where a leisure-time or holiday school is held, or courses given at definite periods. Knowing the cost

of such courses and accommodation, you can set your budget figure.

With this in mind, take as an example Fundy National Park, down in the southeastern corner of New Brunswick. It is one of the newest in our parks system—occupying some 80 square miles of forest land dotted by a half dozen lakes and numerous brooks. All the waters have been stocked extensively with rainbow and speckled trout. They could be yours for the taking.

Fundy National Park is the only one in Canada, east of Banff, which offers a comprehensive craft course to visitors and tourists. The courses are open to anyone 14 years of age or over, on the payment of a nominal fee.

For those who come by car, provided with a trailer or a tent, there are fine campsites. There are well-equipped chalet-type cottages, which visitors may rent and get their own meals. For those who prefer to eat out while on holiday there is a good restaurant nearby and a very modern hotel in Alma, some five minutes' journey from the main campsite. Alma, Albert County, New Brunswick, is the home address of the park superintendent, Mr. E. G. Saunders. If you desire information on the province itself, write to the Travel Office, Fredericton.

**F**UNDY NATIONAL PARK is 50 miles from Moncton, the transportation center of the Maritime Provinces, which serves as the "front entrance." If you are motoring, you can reach it by any one of three trunk roads: across the Quebec border to Campbellton and thence along route No. 11 to Moncton; from Calais, Maine, across the International Bridge to St. Stephen and by route No. 1 to Saint John and then route No. 2 to (Please turn to page 73)



From road leading to the swimming pool, there is a fine view across the Bay.



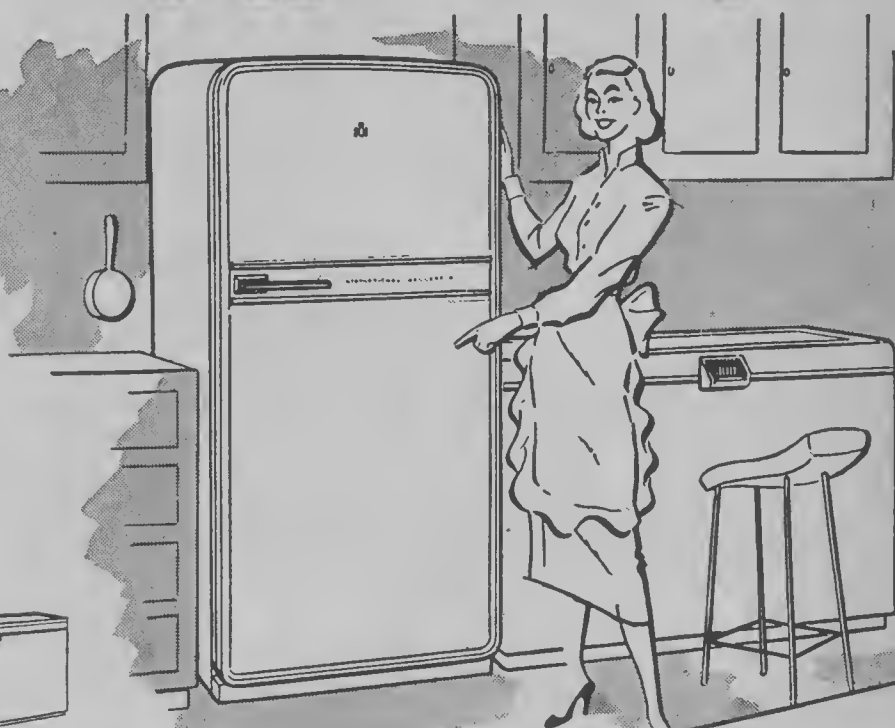
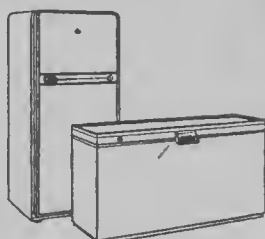


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Never before a refrigerator so lovely to look at! It's clean, new lines will give a fresh, new look to your entire kitchen. No other like it — anywhere! A refrigerator you just *have* to see! 7 all-new models — one for every farm home!

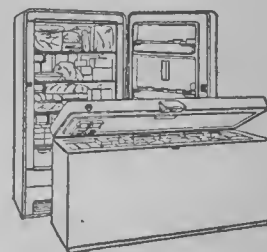
Smartest looking, most convenient home freezers ever! Work surface material can be applied to counter-top of all 4 chest-type models. Refrigerator styling in all 3 upright models.



**new spaces**  
to lighten your work!

More room for more food than in any other refrigerator — size for size! Here's the refrigerator that was *planned* to hold tall bottles and odd-shaped dishes.

Planned to hold more of *everything* . . . right at your fingertips.



Still the World's Leading Freezers. All 7 models are real "space savers" — hold more food on less floor area. You eat better, live better.



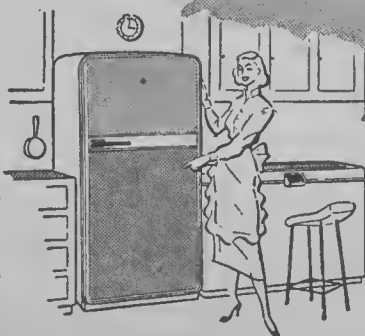
**Never before a door like this!**

It's the *only* door built to withstand today's heavy food loads! Rigid X-Braced Door has exclusive welded steel construction to prevent warp, twist or sag.



**Decorate if you wish!**

Door of refrigerator or upright home freezer can be left gleaming white — or decorated to match kitchen color scheme. Top of chest-type freezer can be covered with work surface material.



## International Harvester

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**See them today at your nearest  
International Harvester Refrigeration Dealer**



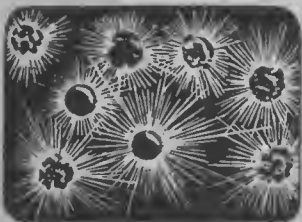
**Not a powder! Not a grind! But millions of tiny "FLAVOR BUDS" of real coffee . . . ready to burst instantly into that famous MAXWELL HOUSE FLAVOR!**

A DELICIOUS SURPRISE awaits you in this revolutionary new coffee . . . utterly unlike old-style "instants" . . . just as quick but tastes so different . . . so full-flavored, so full-bodied.

### 100% PURE COFFEE—NO FILLERS ADDED

It's all pure, roaster-fresh coffee — brewed for you in the spotless Maxwell House kitchens. At the moment of fresh-brewed perfection the water is removed — leaving

the miracle "Flavor Buds". JUST ADD HOT WATER and you'll get gloriously rich coffee *instantly*. You'll never again want the fuss and muss of "brewing your own".



**See how the "Flavor Buds" "Come to Life" in your cup!**

**MAGNIFIED VIEW** of miracle "Flavor Buds" at the instant hot water is added. See how "buds" release famous Maxwell House flavor.

### SAVES YOU MONEY, TOO

A regular jar of instant Maxwell House makes about as many cups as a pound of ordinary ground coffee — yet it costs you up to 30¢ less!

IM-23

A Product of General Foods

ASK FOR

**Instant MAXWELL HOUSE**

... the only instant coffee with that "Good to the Last Drop" flavor

## Supper Cold Meats

*Flavorful, cool and satisfying, they can be prepared well in advance of serving*

**A**FTER an afternoon outing the inevitable question confronts the homemaker, "What shall we have for supper?" Meat dishes, prepared well in advance and served cold, answer the question perfectly. Richly flavored and satisfying, they add variety to spring and summer meals.

An old-fashioned meat loaf, full of good-sized pieces of veal, pork or ham, makes a savory meal. Meal-in-one meat salads are a good answer to the supper problem. And if the family is small, have a hot western-style meat loaf for one day, then serve the remainder cold for supper soon after. It is too good to be classed as a leftover.

With the cold meat dish serve a mayonnaise sauce flavored with horseradish, relish or prepared mustard, thick tomato slices, cucumbers, radish, celery, or other crisp greens and fruit for dessert. For something hot pass a plate of freshly baked cheese biscuits.

### Jellied Veal Loaf

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 veal knuckle bone | 2 eggs, hard cooked       |
| 1 lb. veal shoulder | 8 pimento olives          |
| 1 onion sliced      | 1 T. salt                 |
| 1 bay leaf          | 1 T. Worcestershire sauce |
| 1 tsp. thyme        |                           |
| 1 tsp. celery seed  |                           |

Saw veal knuckle in 3 or 5 pieces. Simmer knuckle, veal, onion, bay leaf, thyme and celery seed in water to cover until veal is tender—2 hours. Remove bone and chop meat fine. Strain veal broth. Cook to reduce to 1 cupful. Arrange sliced, hard-cooked egg and sliced pimento olives in bottom of 2-quart mold. Pour broth over chopped meat; add salt and Worcestershire sauce. Mix thoroughly. Press meat firmly into mold. Chill. Unmold when ready to serve. Serves 10-12.

### Spiced Tongue

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 4-lb. beef tongue    | 3 whole black peppers  |
| 2 tsp. salt            | 1 medium onion         |
| 3 bay leaves           | 2 carrots              |
| 6 whole spiced berries | 1 c. celery and leaves |

Slice onion and carrots. Chop celery leaves, dice celery then measure. Wash tongue, cover with hot water. Add seasonings and prepared vegetables. Simmer 3 to 4 hours. Cool in liquid. Trim excess tissues from root and remove skin and cartilage. Slice and serve cold. *Note:* If allspice and black peppers are not available use 1 T. whole pickling spice.

### Jellied Ham Loaf

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 2 c. cooked ham    | 2 T. lemon juice     |
| 1 T. gelatin       | 2 tsp. chopped onion |
| ¼ c. cold water    |                      |
| 1 c. boiling water | 1 T. horseradish     |

Chop ham fine then measure. Dissolve gelatin in cold water. Add boiling water and chill until slightly thickened. Stir in meat and remaining ingredients. Pour into small loaf pan. Chill until firm. Unmold and serve cold. Serves 4 to 6.

### Western Meat Loaf

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 lb. ground beef  | 3 c. dry bread crumbs |
| 1 onion, chopped   | ½ c. water            |
| ¾ c. sliced celery | ½ c. tomato juice     |
| ¼ c. fat           | 2 T. butter, melted   |
| ⅓ c. green pepper  |                       |
| 1 T. salt          |                       |
| 2 eggs             |                       |

Brown onion and celery in hot fat in heavy pan. Combine with chopped green pepper, salt, eggs, bread crumbs and water to make a stuffing. Add half stuffing (1½ c.) to meat, mixing well. Pat out half meat mixture into greased 2-quart loaf pan. Cover meat in pan with remaining stuffing, then top stuffing with remaining meat mixture. Bake at 350° F. for 1¼ hours. Combine tomato juice and melted butter. When loaf has cooked 15 minutes pour half tomato-butter mixture over loaf; 15 minutes later pour remainder over loaf. This adds flavor and keeps loaf moist. Serve hot or cold. Serves 10 to 12.

### Pickled Pork Feet

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 4 pork feet, split | 1 bay leaf     |
| 3 T. vinegar       | 6 whole cloves |
| 1 onion, sliced    | 1 T. salt      |
| 12 pepper corns    |                |

Scrub feet thoroughly. Place in kettle. Cover with water, add vinegar and heat to boiling. Skim. Add onion, pepper corns, bay leaf, cloves and salt. Simmer 2 hours. Serve cold.

### Meal-in-One Salad

- |                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 c. thin strips cooked meat | ¼ c. French dressing  |
| ½ c. cooked peas             | Salt                  |
| ½ c. shredded crisp carrot   | Salad greens          |
| ½ c. diced celery            | Salad dressing        |
| ½ c. chopped pickle          | Pickled beets         |
|                              | Radishes and tomatoes |

With fork combine meat, peas, carrots, pickle and French dressing. Use a light touch. Cover and keep in refrigerator 2 hours to chill and blend flavors. Spoon lightly onto shredded crisp salad greens (lettuce, cabbage, spinach). Top with salad dressing. Garnish with pickled beets, gerkins, radish and tomatoes. Serves 4 generously.



*Taste tempting and attractive, jellied veal adds variety to summer meals.*



# Spring Entertaining

Careful planning of refreshments ensures a successful party

SPRING and summer days are perfect for entertaining. Whether the occasion is a bridal or baby shower, a birthday celebration, an afternoon tea or a casual get-together the foods you serve will be something just a little special.

Ice cream, fruit and cake with a special topping makes an important dessert for a gala afternoon or evening event. Stack cake, peach halves and ice cream, cover with seven-minute frosting or meringue, brown in a very hot oven and serve immediately. Or, if you feel you will be too rushed for last minute baking, frost each individual pyramid with whipped cream, sprinkle with tinted coconut or shaved chocolate and store in the freezing compartment of the refrigerator until serving time.

A brown and white confection that makes use of your favorite brownies or fudge bar recipe is as easy to make as it is tempting. While hot from the oven cover with a layer of cut marshmallows, return to the oven to melt.

The Eskimo cake, unlike most whipped cream desserts, tastes best when left in the refrigerator for three days to a week. If possible bake the cake in a deep container in which it can be stored and cover tightly for whipped cream picks up flavors easily.

### Eskimo Chocolate Cake

- |                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2 oz. chocolate        | 1 tsp. salt                  |
| ½ c. boiling water     | ½ tsp. baking soda           |
| 1 c. sifted cake flour | ¼ c. shortening              |
| 1 c. sugar             | ¼ c. sour milk or buttermilk |
| ½ tsp. vanilla         | 1 egg, unbeaten              |

Grate or cut chocolate very fine. Put into mixing bowl and pour boiling water over it gradually. Stir until melted. Cool. Sift dry ingredients (use ¼ tsp. salt if butter is used) over chocolate mixture. Drop in shortening. Beat 300 strokes (2 minutes on electric beater). Add milk and egg and beat another 150 strokes (1 minute). Pour into greased 8-inch pan. Bake at 350° F. for 35 to 40 minutes. Cool. Split for filling. Fill and top with topping:

Melt ¼ to ½ c. (up to 3 oz.) chocolate chips or grated sweetened chocolate. Cool slightly. Whip 1 c. heavy cream. Add cooled chocolate. Fold in very lightly for mottled effect. Spread on cake. Leave in refrigerator for several days.

### Marshmallow Fudge Bars

- |                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| ½ c. butter          | 3 T. cocoa        |
| ¾ c. sugar           | 1 tsp. vanilla    |
| 2 eggs               | ½ c. chopped nuts |
| ¾ c. sifted flour    | 12 marshmallows   |
| ¼ tsp. baking powder | ¼ tsp. salt       |

Cream butter. Add sugar and cream until light and fluffy. Add eggs one at a time and beat after each addition. Add vanilla. Sift dry ingredients. Add to creamed mixture, blending well. Stir in nuts. Spread in greased 8-inch pan. Bake at 350° F. for 25 minutes. Remove from oven. Cover top with halved marshmallows. Return to oven for 3 minutes or until marshmallows melt. Ice with thin layer chocolate frosting.



Toasted ice cream puffs add a gay note to a party.

### Lemon Slice

- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1 c. sifted flour    | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| ½ c. butter          | ½ tsp. salt    |
| 1 tsp. baking powder | 1 egg          |
|                      | 1 T. milk      |

Sift and measure flour, add salt and baking powder. Sift into mixing bowl. Cut in butter as for pastry. Beat egg slightly, add milk and vanilla. Add to flour, stirring until just blended. Press soft dough into greased 8-inch pan. Cover with cooled lemon filling:

- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| ¾ c. sugar       | 2½ c. flour            |
| ¼ c. lemon juice | 1 egg, slightly beaten |
| Grated rind      | 1 T. butter            |
| 1 lemon          |                        |

Mix flour and sugar; add lemon rind, juice and egg. Cook over hot water in double boiler, stirring constantly until mixture thickens. Add butter. Cool. Pour over dough in pan and top with following:

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1 egg              | 2 c. coconut   |
| 3 T. melted butter | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| 1 c. sugar         |                |

Beat egg, melt butter. Stir sugar into beaten egg, blending well, add melted butter, coconut and vanilla. Spread over lemon mixture. Bake at 350° F. for 30 minutes. Cut in small squares while still warm. Cool in pan.

### Toasted Ice Cream Puffs

Cake:

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| ¼ c. butter          | 1¼ c. sifted flour |
| ¾ c. sugar           | ¼ tsp. salt        |
| 1 egg                | ½ c. milk          |
| 2 tsp. baking powder | ½ tsp. vanilla     |

Cream butter and sugar; add egg and mix well. Sift flour, baking powder and salt together. Add alternately with milk. Blend thoroughly. Add vanilla and mix. Bake in 7 by 11-inch pan, lined with waxed paper. Bake at 350° F. for 25 minutes and let cool 10 minutes then remove from pan.

Frosting:

- |              |                        |
|--------------|------------------------|
| 2 egg whites | ¼ tsp. cream of tartar |
| 1½ c. sugar  |                        |
| 5 T. water   | 1 tsp. vanilla         |
| ¼ tsp. salt  |                        |

Mix egg whites, sugar, salt and cream of tartar in top of double boiler. Beat with rotary beater over boiling water until frosting stands in definite peaks—7 minutes. Fold in vanilla. Cool 1 hour.

Ten minutes before it is to be served cut cake into 8 equal portions and place on cookie sheet. Place peach half, hollow side up on each piece of cake. Place a rounded tablespoon of ice cream on each peach half. Completely cover ice cream, peach and cake with frosting about ½-inch thick. Spread frosting carefully around base of cake on cookie sheet to seal in ice cream. Bake in very hot oven, 450° F. for 3 minutes or until frosting is delicate brown. Serve immediately.

## LUSCIOUS LEMON

# 4-Decker CAKE



### Bake it with MAGIC and serve it with pride!

Enjoy that satisfying inward glow... as friends exult over the success of your very own baking! This lemony-luscious treat is a real creation! Something individual to set before your guests!

And it's no trick at all to turn out such a distinguished cake when you use Magic Baking Powder. Indeed, success comes naturally when Magic is in the batter. Four generations of Canadian cooks have proved it so! Get time-tried Magic today—use it in all your baking.



Costs less than 1¢ per average baking

### LEMON 4-DECKER CAKE

- |                                    |                               |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2¼ cups sifted pastry flour        | 10 tbsps. butter or margarine |
| or 2 cups sifted all-purpose flour | 1 cup fine granulated sugar   |
| 3 tps. Magic Baking Powder         | 2 eggs                        |
| ½ tsp. salt                        | ¾ cup milk                    |
|                                    | 1 tsp. vanilla                |

Grease two 8-inch round layer-cake pans and line bottoms with greased paper. Pre-heat oven to 375° (moderately hot). Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder and salt together three times. Cream butter or margarine; gradually blend in sugar; add unbeaten eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Measure milk and add vanilla. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture about a quarter at a time, alternating with three additions of milk and combining lightly after each addition. Turn into prepared pans. Bake in pre-heated oven about 25 minutes. Split layers of cold cake and put all together with lemon cake filling; cover with 7-minute frosting flavored with vanilla and lemon extract; decorate with well-drained maraschino cherries.



**Vancouver, B. C.:**  
"Noxzema's beauty treatment does a thorough job of cleansing and leaves my dry skin softer and more attractive," says Betty Stokvis.



**Toronto, Ont.:** "My complexion is much smoother, clearer since I use Noxzema as my beauty cream," says Norma Howe. "It's a wonderful help for healing blemishes!"



# Look lovelier in 10 days with NEW HOME FACIAL or your money back!

**This different beauty care softens and freshens your skin—KEEPS it that way, too!**

If you aren't entirely satisfied with your complexion here's the biggest beauty news in years!

A noted skin specialist has worked out a different kind of beauty care. Its remarkable effectiveness comes from the unique qualities of Noxzema Skin Cream.

This combination of softening, soothing, refreshing and cleansing ingredients is offered by no other leading beauty cream. *And it's medicated—helps healing—soothes the sting of wind and cold—keeps skin looking fresh and clear!*

**Feel the exhilarating tingle!**

The moment you smooth on Noxzema, you feel a cool, refreshing tingle. It tells you Noxzema's beauty action is starting to work for you.

Hundreds of letters praise Noxzema for dry, rough, flaky skin; for oily skin with a tendency to blemishes; and especially for that dull, lifeless half-clean look of many so-called normal complexions.

**1 Cleanse:** Apply Noxzema liberally; wring out a cloth in warm water and wash as if using soap. How fresh your skin looks and feels—after this 'cream-washing' not dry, or drawn!

**2 Night Cream:** Noxzema's protective film of oil and moisture softens, smoothes and freshens your skin while you sleep. (Pat a bit extra over any blemishes—it's medicated to help heal them, *fast!*)

**3 Make-up base:** In the morning, 'cream-wash' again; then apply greaseless Noxzema as your long-lasting powder base. It helps protect your skin all day.

**It works or money back!**

In clinical tests, Noxzema helped 4 out of 5 women have lovelier complexions. Try it for 10 days—if you don't look lovelier—return the jar to Noxzema, Toronto—your money back!

Get Noxzema at drug or cosmetic counters in the familiar blue jar—26¢, 65¢, 89¢, \$1.69. Also available in tubes.

Made in Canada

**NOXZEMA** skin cream

## The Countrywoman

Continued from page 65

from the group at times may be good. Groups differ as units, and in this difference there is health.

"Nine out of ten in a group may be wrong. The tenth man's vision of truth may be powerful and overwhelming. He may be fitted by nature and education to dedicate himself to truth. He may become the noble martyr, the witness for truth.

"John Dewey, as an educationist, strongly influenced modern teaching methods and educational practices. He stressed 'the group' and 'democracy.' Dewey enjoyed and took for granted intellectual and moral freedom developed in the 19th century. He never stated his concept of man. Whether the results are sweet or sour, his followers have put emphasis on 'group' and 'sharing.'

"Not everybody is equal—each has his own roots—yet to be noble or aristocrat is to be suspect today. We have much in our thinking that grew up before the days of democracy. The trend today is not to teach history—only to select from it those things which seem useful in our times. You cannot undo history—the facts are there and helped make us what we are.

"We are certain of the importance of one subject—the teaching of health, and we have done a good job there. We are learning to use the new science of psychology—realizing that man is a social animal and that he does not live alone. We do not go in for philosophy.

"We are seeing today the development of the group into the herd—a group of units following a leader. The herd is driven by mass emotion and the herd instinct threatens to sweep over the world. The herd produces the totalitarian mind—the denial of any mystery or truth, beyond the group. The impact of the herd instinct upon society, upon humanity can be terrible.

"We well may ask today: where are we going? We have to re-define truths so as not to lose their essence. Truth is the mystery that draws man on to see the unseen. We have a choice between the noble and the herd—between animality as opposed to humanity. Someone has said that 'one of the threads running through society is the desire and the attempt to escape freedom.'

"We must nourish and cherish the thinker."

A small book of some 23 pages, "The Debt of Reason," containing a lecture by Dr. Hilda Neatby, M.A., Ph.D., LL.D., has just been announced by her publishers, Clarke Irwin Company. The lecture was delivered recently, before one of the largest crowds ever to fill the Convocation Hall, University of Toronto.

## Canada

*Land of a hundred peoples  
From far and wide they came,  
Merged in a mighty cauldron—  
One people and one name.*

*From sea to sea one people,  
By choice and name and deed;  
Great nation of the spirit  
That sowed a nation's seed.*

*Fixed with a common purpose,  
Dowered with a touch divine;  
This people will not perish  
Unless their faith decline.*

—ARTHUR S. BOURINOT.

*Long Lasting  
and  
Gleaming White*



*The Beauty of*  
**GLASS ON STEEL**



*Enamelled Ware*

Glass fired on enduring steel gives Hespeler Maid enamelled ware beauty that endures. It is non-porous and sanitary and virtually chip-proof. As easy to clean as china.

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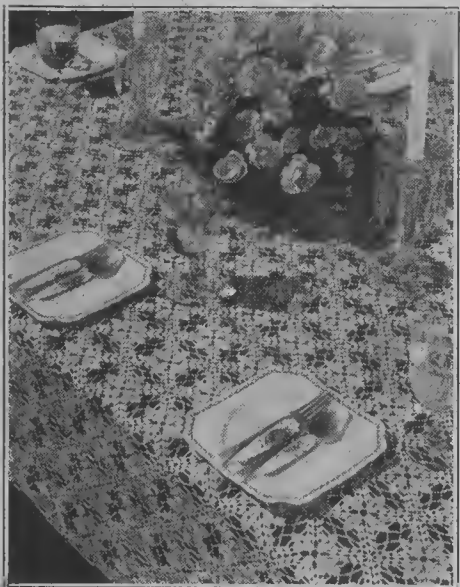
**THE ROYAL BANK  
OF CANADA**



# Summer Crochet

Summer accessories and an heirloom  
tablecloth for leisure-time crochet

by ANNA LOREE



## Design No. T-106

A beautiful lace cloth is worth all the time and energy that goes into its making. This bumblebee cloth is 45 by 60 inches and is made up of 2½-inch square motifs crocheted together. It could easily become a family heirloom.

The small separate motifs enable you to tuck your handiwork into your purse or tote bag and take it along to work on while visiting. Consider using the motif design, too, in the making of place mat sets, runners and even small, square doilies. Materials required are 15 large balls (24 of a color) of size 30 crochet cotton and a No. 10 hook. The bumblebee tablecloth is Design No. T-106. Price 10 cents.

## Design No. PC-6204

Easily crocheted beach accessories, including slippers, bag and halter will help you save on your holiday wardrobe. Wear the camisole top for sunning; the drawstring carry-all bag and laced slippers will be constant vacation companions. The set is in white, stripe-trimmed with a bright color.

The bag has an 8-inch square base, the slippers may be made in small, medium or large size, the halter is in sizes 12, 14 and 16 years. Directions for all sizes are given on one instruction sheet. Materials required are 10 balls white, 4 each of Nile and hunter green crochet cotton and two steel hooks Nos. 0 and 7. A double thread is used throughout. Beach accessories are Design No. PC-6204. Price 10 cents.



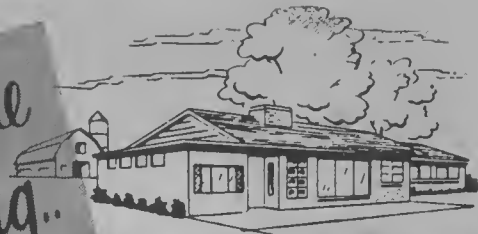
## Design No. PC-6195

A pretty profile hat to make in white with dark accents to complement a spring suit or summer print. It takes only two balls crochet cotton to make the hat and a small quantity of wool for the trim. The steel hook used is No. 5. The hat is done in single crochet and a double strand is used throughout. Nine small wooden buttons trim the outer edge of the brim. Crocheted hat is Design No. PC-6195. Price 10 cents.



Address all orders to The Country Guide Needlework Department, 290 Vaughan Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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better your living..



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**FROST-FREE  
REFRIGERATOR**

100% AUTOMATIC DEFROSTING  
FROM TOP TO BOTTOM!

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**imperial 30"**  
SPEED ELECTRIC RANGE

WITH **SUPER COROX**  
SURFACE ELEMENT

**RED-HOT**  
in 30 seconds

Speediest surface cooking of any range, plus a King-Size Miracle-Sealed Oven that lets you bake perfectly anywhere in the oven, and gives you 26% more roasting and baking capacity than standard single-oven ranges. Has Look-In Oven Door with Oven Light, built-in automatic Electric Clock and Oven Timer, and a full-width Fluorescent Light.

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Give Baby's Own Tablets. Sweet, simple little tablets. Nothing better to help clear out bowels quickly—yet gently. No "sleepy" stuff—no dulling effect. Used for more than 50 years.

Equally good for the restlessness and feverishness resulting from digestive upsets at teething time and other minor baby ills. Get a package today at drugstores.



# BABY'S OWN TABLETS

## » FREE «

### Map of Beaverlodge URANIUM AREA

Follow the development of URANIUM with this up-to-date map.

Write

H. (Hank) L. Olson

**Olson Investments Ltd.**

1812 G Broad St., Regina

## All-Weather Lining

*Aluminum-coated fabric deflects summer's heat and keeps out winter's cold*

**D**ID you ever think that the materials in the clothes you wear may have come from an aluminum smelter?

Impossible? No—for that is exactly what may happen. Aluminum is now used in the making of a new lining, an aluminum-based fabric, called milium. Flakes of aluminum foil are first dissolved in a resin base, then sprayed onto one side of a fabric, usually rayon. The resin is evaporated off and then the aluminum-coated fabric is baked, at a very high temperature.

The coated lining then acts for the human body much in the way a venetian blind does on the window of your living room. The aluminum serves to reflect the sun's heat rays. In the same way, material reflects the rays from the hot summer sun, away from the body, helping to keep the wearer more comfortable. In winter, the body's heat is reflected back to itself thus tending to conserve heat. It serves to make lighter weight clothing, more comfortable for cold weather wear.

It is claimed that the milium process increases the insulating value

of material as much as 200 per cent. Yet it adds less than an ounce of weight to the average garment. Milium fabrics are soft and have good draping qualities. The fabrics remain as porous as they were previous to the coating treatment. They dry-clean well.

So far, this aluminum coating process has chiefly been used for linings. Heavy rayon satin lining is coated with aluminum and then used in the making of men's and women's topcoats, suits and sports jackets. It is also used most successfully for children's coats and snow suits, for ski jackets, windbreakers and all types of rainwear.

A second method is now coming into use. Aluminum is "coated" on the inner side of the actual material from which the garment is made. Gloves and hats are an example of this method of treatment. Another good example is the milium-coated drapery materials, now being made and finding their way to the market. Aluminum is sprayed directly onto the drapery fabric. The material drapes well, is colorfast and may need no further lining. Use of such draperies greatly helps to keep the heat in, in the winter, and by keeping the sun's heat out in the summer, goes far to make the room cooler.

Other uses for this new aluminum-coated fabric are rapidly being found for sleeping bags, tents, awnings. In-

dustrial markets are developing for its use in such items as: clothing for fire fighters; pipe wrappings and automobile tops. One can readily see a hundred different uses for such a wonder fabric in Canada alone—which has such weather extremes.

The fact that a lining of a garment is made of milium, will likely appear on the manufacturer's tag. For most people perhaps the only clue that their garment—be it coat, suit or jacket—is made of milium is the decidedly "silvery" grey color on the coated side of fabric or lining.—L.V.

### Removing Dot Snaps

It is sometimes very difficult to remove dot snaps from coveralls. If a pair of side-cutting or diagonal pliers are used, and the ball point snapped off, the snap will practically fall off.—I.W.D.



### Cookie Convenience

When making cookies where batter has to be chilled I press the batter into a plastic bag. This takes less room in the cold storage than a pan, and when I want to use it I take the batter out and pour hot water over it; the contents slide right out.—I.W.D.



Reaching for perfection!

**We've just spent over \$1,000,000**  
to bring you an even finer, whiter flour  
with better baking qualities!

## NEW Robin Hood Vitamin Enriched Flour

now milled in the best-equipped,  
most up-to-date mills in Canada!

Prove it with this new recipe

### DOUGHNUTS

- 3½ cups sifted Robin Hood Vitamin Enriched Flour
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 eggs, separated
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 tablespoons butter or shortening
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon nutmeg
- ¾ cup plus 2 tablespoons milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Sift Robin Hood Vitamin Enriched Flour and baking powder together twice. Beat egg yolks. Add sugar gradually. Add creamed butter, salt, nutmeg and 2 tablespoons milk. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Blend in dry ingredients and remaining milk alternately, beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Add vanilla.

On lightly floured surface pat dough to ½ inch thickness. Cut with doughnut cutter.

Fry in deep fat at a temperature of 360°F. (A one-inch cube of bread will brown in 1 minute.) Drain on absorbent paper. Sprinkle with sugar. Makes 3 dozen light, luscious doughnuts.



Listen to the Robin Hood Musical Kitchen starring Cliff McKay  
Mon., Wed., Fri. — Trans-Canada Network





Dormitory building in the park which has been used as teaching quarters.

## Fundy Park

Continued from page 66

Moncton. Or you can enter New Brunswick at St.-Leonard, follow the St. John River to Saint John city on No. 2 highway. All routes are well-paved roads.

At the "hub city," Moncton, you cross the Petitcodiac River and then take route No. 14, through miles of unparalleled beauty. On your left, always the chocolate-colored Petitcodiac, the river that's almost empty for half of the day but which becomes a muddy swirl of tidal currents when the "bore" rolls in to fill the banks brim-full in the space of a few hours. The tides of the Bay of Fundy are one of the world's famous natural wonders.

Spanking new communities and old historic ones nestle against tiers of

green to the right. Then you drive through miles of flat marshlands, where earthen dikes hold the salt sea water back from lush green pastures where cattle feed. These dikes were begun by the Acadians around 1750. You can still see some of the original portions. The marshes end, and the road begins to climb the thickly forested slopes of parkland. It's not mountainous country as the west coast knows mountains, but gently rounded, hilly land—in appearance rather like chains of camel humps strung along the skyline.

You clatter across a covered bridge at Alma, a village built by the fish and lumber trade. You catch a whiff of the clean salt air and a glimpse of scows and schooners loading lumber in the Bay. Then at the top of the last hill, 500 feet above sea level, you drive into the administration center of

Fundy Park. The administration buildings: cottages, restaurant, clubhouse and craft center seem to lie in a cup of green. Below, the rugged, spectacular shoreline extends before your eyes with the waters of Fundy Bay surging in a flurry of foam against the ageless cliffs. Above, the hills tower skyward.

FOR the young and active, there are tennis courts, a softball field, a green for lawn bowling and a splendid swimming pool right on the beach. There you may swim in sea water, which has been filtered and heated to remove its chill. There are also many fine beaches where you can take a dip in the surf or go boating. When your man tires of fishing, there's a tricky nine-hole golf course, with a tumbling brook as one of its hazards.

The Maritimes are famous for their home crafts. It is most fitting that in this recreation park there should be basic courses in: weaving, using both table and floor looms; leathercraft for beginners and wood turning. Each student weaver works in a separate room, learning to calculate threads, make several warps, thread looms to different patterns and, of course, to read drafts. The articles turned out may be scarves, table runners, auto robes and towels. Lessons are given daily in English, French, Estonian, Swedish and Norwegian.

Wood turners make book-ends, candlesticks, napkin rings, trays, bowls, stools, and many other articles from native New Brunswick woods; plain and bird's-eye maple, plain and curly birch, butternut and cherry. The student learns to turn pieces, to sand,

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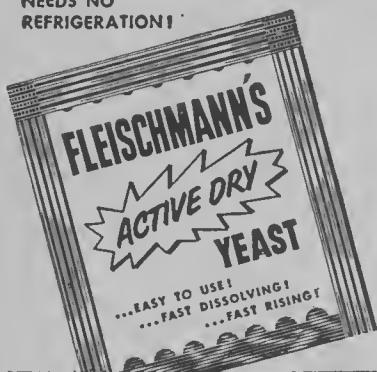
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### BASIC FRUIT DOUGH

#### Prepare

- 1½ cups bleached or sulfonated raisins, washed and dried
- ½ cup finely-cut candied citron
- ½ cup broken walnuts or pecans

#### Scald

- 2 cups milk

Remove from heat and cool to lukewarm.

In the meantime, measure into a small bowl

- ½ cup lukewarm water
- 2 teaspoons granulated sugar

and stir until sugar is dissolved.

Sprinkle with contents of

- 2 envelopes Fleischmann's Active Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well.

Sift together three times

- 4 cups once-sifted bread flour
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 4 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon grated nutmeg

- ¼ teaspoon ground cloves

- ¼ teaspoon ground mace

Cream in a large bowl

- ½ cup butter or margarine

- ¾ cup lightly-packed brown sugar

Gradually beat in

- 1 well-beaten egg

Stir in lukewarm milk, dissolved yeast and sifted dry ingredients; beat until smooth and elastic. Mix in prepared fruits and nuts.

Work in

- 3½ cups (about) once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease top of dough. Cover and set dough in a warm place, free from draught, and let rise until doubled in bulk. Turn out dough on lightly-floured board and knead lightly until smooth. Divide into 3 equal portions and finish as follows:



#### 1. Chop Suey Loaf

Knead ¼ cup well-drained cut-up maraschino cherries into one portion of the dough. Shape into a loaf and fit into a greased bread pan about 4½ by 8½ inches. Grease top. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°, about 40 minutes. Brush top of hot loaf with soft butter or margarine.

#### 2. Butterscotch Fruit Buns

Cream together ½ cup butter or margarine, ½ teaspoon grated orange rind, ¼ cup corn syrup and 1 cup lightly-packed brown sugar. Spread about a quarter of this mixture in a greased 9-inch square cake pan; sprinkle with ½ cup pecan halves. Roll out one portion of dough on lightly-floured board into a 9-inch square. Spread

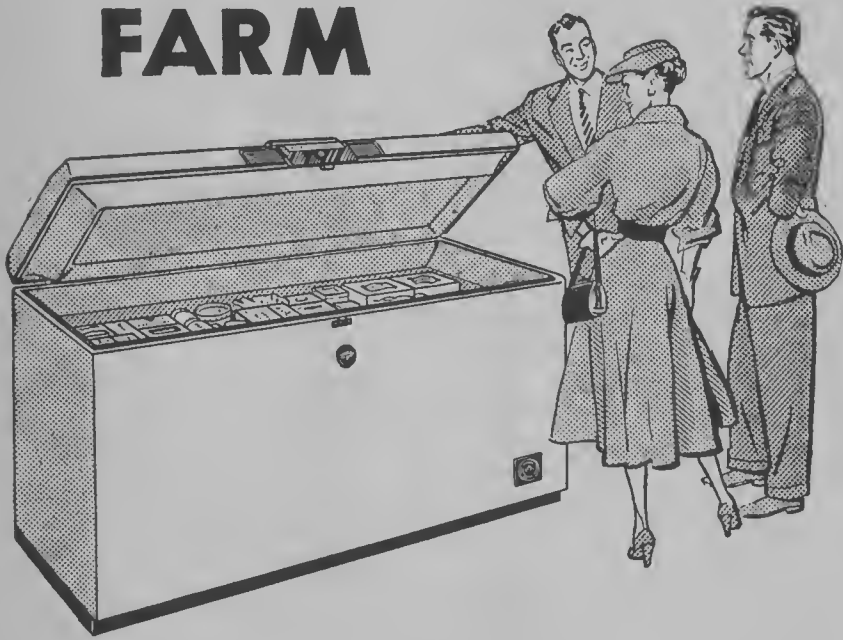
almost to the edges with remaining brown sugar mixture; roll up loosely, jelly-roll fashion, and cut into 9 slices. Place each piece, a cut side up, in prepared pan. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°, about 30 minutes. Stand pan of buns on a cake cooler for 5 minutes before turning out.

#### 3. Frosted Fruit Buns

Cut one portion of dough into 18 equal-sized pieces. Shape each piece into a smooth round ball. Place, well apart, on a greased cookie sheet. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°, about 15 minutes. Immediately after baking, spread buns with a frosting made by combining 1 cup once-sifted icing sugar, 4 teaspoons milk and a few drops almond extract.

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The leather course, a simple basic one, lasts for a week. During that time you may learn to make change purses, braided belts, wallet, key case or a pair of slippers in sheep shearling.

There are also one to six-day courses for people who have had previous craft training. There is intricate leather tooling for those who wish it and more advanced weaving—such as clothing or drapery fabrics in colorful designs. Each project costs less than \$5.00—and that covers the price of materials as well as fee. The stockrooms at Fundy National Park carry stores of almost everything needed: yarns, woods, leathers and accessories. The craft courses are under the direction of Dr. Ivan Crowell, head of the New Brunswick Handicraft Division.

The main craft building is furnished entirely with New Brunswick-made furniture and draperies produced by well-known, skilled craftspeople in the province. On the walls hang paintings and sketches by local artists.

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Combine leftover cooked meat and vegetables with a well-seasoned cream sauce and serve hot on baking powder biscuits, waffles or thin pancakes.

Serve juicy brown sausages on top of French toast for a breakfast dish to crow about.

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Cook eggs, whether fried, cooked in water or baked, at low temperatures, to prevent them becoming tough and leathery.

Add a little chopped onion, green pepper or chives to pep up the flavor of cooked vegetables.

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4679



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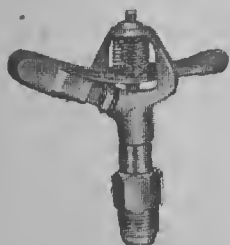
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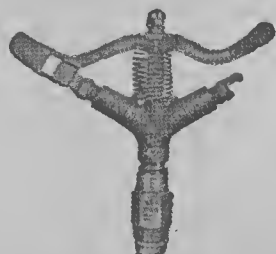


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## Manitoba's Livestock Marketing Problem

*Manitoba Pool Elevator associations say thumbs down on M.F.U. proposal for a livestock marketing board*

ARISING out of the widespread interest in producer marketing boards, which has developed during the postwar period, and more particularly during the last five years, the livestock marketing problem has been brought very much to the fore in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario.

After several years of persistent effort, the Ontario Hog Producers' Association last year was able to establish a hog-marketing board, the future of which is not yet very clear. Last year, likewise, the Saskatchewan Farmers' Union developed a proposal for a national livestock marketing board, which envisaged complete control, by a producers' board, of all of the livestock moving through public markets in Canada. This proposal was supported by the Manitoba Farmers' Union, and was officially launched in October at what was characterized as an inter-provincial livestock conference, held in Winnipeg on October 14. It was also presented in a submission before the Saskatchewan Royal Commission on Agriculture and Rural Life, also in October.

The chief result of the Winnipeg conference was a decision that the proposal needed a great deal more study. Subsequently, a further conference was held in Saskatoon on January 26, at which the Farmers' Unions decided that provincial livestock marketing boards would offer greater hope of success, especially in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Subsequently a plan was worked out, based on the Manitoba Natural Products Marketing Act, 1939. (Curiously enough, though this Act was passed 15 years ago, it lay completely unused until 1953, when the honey producers of Manitoba were successful in getting government approval for a plebiscite under the Act, and subsequently, a favorable vote, following which a honey marketing board was established. There is also pending, an application for approval of a poultry marketing board in Manitoba.)

It is understood that 10,000 copies of the proposed M.F.U. livestock plan were distributed in February, and on April 6, a Manitoba livestock conference was held in Winnipeg. At this conference the proposal for a livestock marketing board was approved by a very large majority, almost, if not entirely, by the votes of Farmers' Union members. A committee of five was elected to be "in charge of presenting the plan to the Manitoba Marketing Board and to the Manitoba Government."

The plan itself is not too clear, as set out, because, under it, "livestock" includes "cattle, sheep and swine," and the term "regulated product" in the draft act means "livestock and livestock products of all kinds, or any of them, produced, and/or offered for sale, or sold in the province." Since dairy cows are cattle, and dairy animals provide about 40 per cent of the Canadian beef supply, the plan seems to suggest that it also covers dairy cattle and their products. Also, the definition of a "regulated product" would seem to in-

clude the by-products of livestock processing, of which there are said to be literally hundreds.

J. Schulz, president of the M.F.U., does say that the board will not be able to "just walk in and begin setting prices." He suggests that "the best the board can do from the beginning, as we see it, is to become a bargaining agent between the farmers and the packers. This is what our Wheat Board is today. They are not setting any prices but are trying to make as good a deal as possible for the farmers."

Mr. Schulz has very definite ideas, however, as to what a bargaining agent could do. "The Board," he says, "could appoint a selling agency in order to be able to channel all the cattle through one place. We have in mind the Co-operative Livestock Association, as a commission firm. All buyers would have to come and buy from the one commission house . . . Today we have eight commission houses in Winnipeg . . . Later on when the Board has accumulated a fund (with the two per cent deduction on all sales provided for in the plan), the time may come when the Board will be in a position to set prices."

Nevertheless, he believes that there is one thing the Board "could definitely do from the beginning—set prices at the other end. They could," he says, "set the margin between the packers and the wholesalers; between the wholesalers and the retailers, the retailers and the consumers. We believe this is very important."

REFERENCE to the Co-operative Livestock Association as a selling agency for the proposed Board, brought an immediate reaction. Within two days the board of directors of Manitoba Pool Elevators Limited authorized the calling of a special general meeting of its delegates to discuss one question only; whether or not the organization would take any part in, or provide any money for the promotion of, the proposed livestock marketing board. For several years Manitoba Pool Elevators has been operating a livestock department in Manitoba and has kept this aspect of its operations entirely separate from its grain handling operations. Would the organization, knowing that the subject was bound to be controversial, and realizing that it was itself primarily a grain-handling organization, take any active part in promoting the suggested livestock marketing board, or would it stay clear of it?

The delegates' meeting was called for April 20, in the Armouries at Brandon; and of a possible 209 delegates, 203 registered at the meeting, together with sufficient members of their local boards of directors to provide an attendance of more than 1,000. The only outsiders invited, aside from the press, were Mr. Schulz, who was invited to place his case before the delegate body, and two others to answer questions, H. S. Scarth, Q.C., solicitor for Pool Elevators, and L. Hancock, district supervisor, Federal Livestock Marketing Services, Winnipeg.

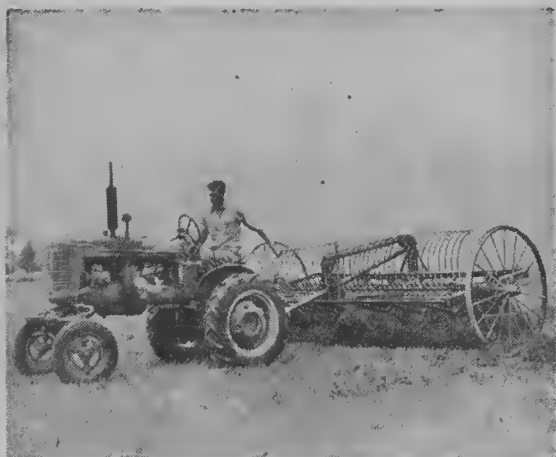
The lunch hour intervened between the speech of Mr. Schulz and the





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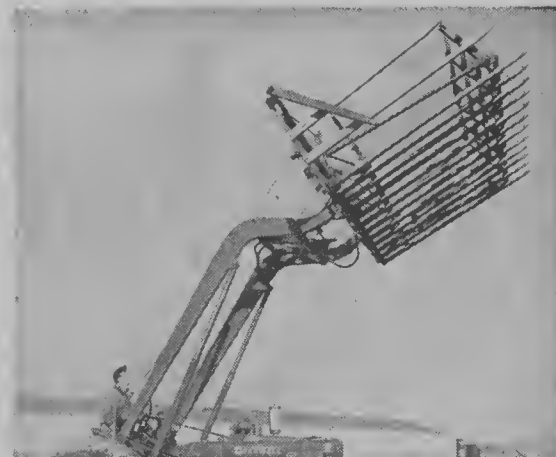
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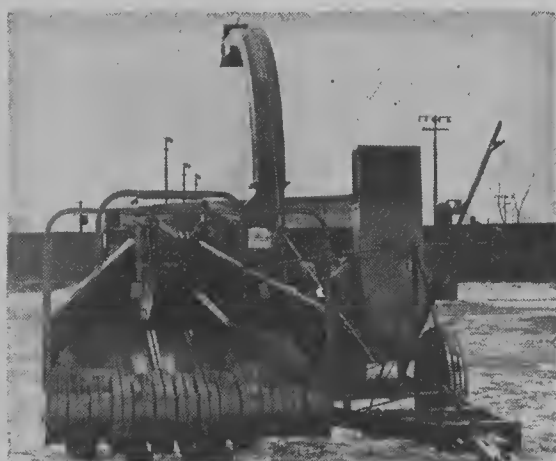
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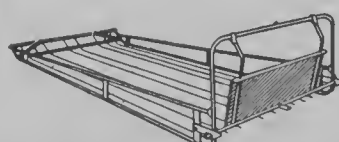
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question period. The discussion period was solely in the hands of the delegates, who had elected George McConnell, vice-president of Manitoba Pool Elevators, as chairman. Two hours brought the questioning to an end, and a polled vote, on the basis of one vote for each local association, led, not to a recommendation, but to an instruction to the Board of Directors to "refrain from any part or participation in the promotion of the proposed livestock marketing board." The vote was 184 associations for, to 19 against the resolution, or 90.7 per cent for non-participation.

**A**FTER some exchanges as to procedure, a further resolution was passed by a vote of 147 to 34, which reaffirmed support by the organization, of the principle of livestock marketing boards. Having done what they went to Brandon to do, the delegates, with their local advisers, went home.

When viewed in retrospect, both resolutions passed by the Pool Elevator delegates would appear to possess substantial significance. On the main motion, the local associations were overwhelmingly (184 to 19) against putting their organization behind the proposed livestock marketing board. It must be obvious that approximately one-sixth (34) of the associations voting against it, did so because they were opposed to the principle of marketing boards.

As to the remaining 150 associations opposed to participation in any promotion of the proposed scheme, these could probably be divided into at least three groups of undetermined sizes. First would be a very substantial group

whose principal aim was to keep their organization away from controversy. Another group almost certainly opposed the proposed scheme, while a third group probably voted against participation out of loyalty to their own livestock department which Pool Elevators reluctantly undertook to set up in 1948.

This direct association of Pool Elevators with livestock marketing, however, raises another point which, to this reporter, appears to possess considerable significance. It seems almost certain that if an organization representing some 33,000 Manitoba farmers, with six years of direct experience in livestock marketing, had been convinced of the soundness of the proposed plan and had felt that it represented the thinking of a representative majority of Manitoba farmers, it would have felt bound, and its local associations would have compelled it to support in some appropriate, but vigorous manner, the proposal that was under consideration. That the delegates representing the 203 local associations registered at Brandon did not have this confidence in the proposed scheme, seems very clear: otherwise, there would have been an insistence that some way be found of utilizing the experience and organizational facilities of Pool Elevators, in furtherance of a commendable objective, without jeopardizing the fundamental grain-handling operations of the organization.

On the resolution supporting the principle of marketing boards, approximately ten per cent of the associations recorded no vote. In some cases this was because delegates had

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instructions only on the subject of the main resolution. The 19 local associations favoring the Farmers' Union plan certainly supported the principle of marketing boards. A large number of other associations undoubtedly did so primarily to re-affirm the stand previously taken by the delegate body. Undoubtedly, also, there were a consider-

able number of those who supported the principle of marketing boards, who did so because they felt that the livestock marketing problem was important; that marketing boards, in principle, offered some hope of a new approach to the problem; and that it was important to keep the idea in the limelight.—H.S.F. ✓

## Notes from British Columbia

*Strawberries and cream—brucellosis and undulant fever—  
milk from discontented cows—horse collars and milk cans*

by C. V. FAULKNER

Death of a Chilliwack man this year from undulant fever has drawn fresh attention to the cattleman's No. 1 enemy—brucellosis, the cattle disease which produces undulant fever in humans. The fatal case was one of two cases reported in that area last January; and both have been definitely traced to the use of unpasteurized milk.

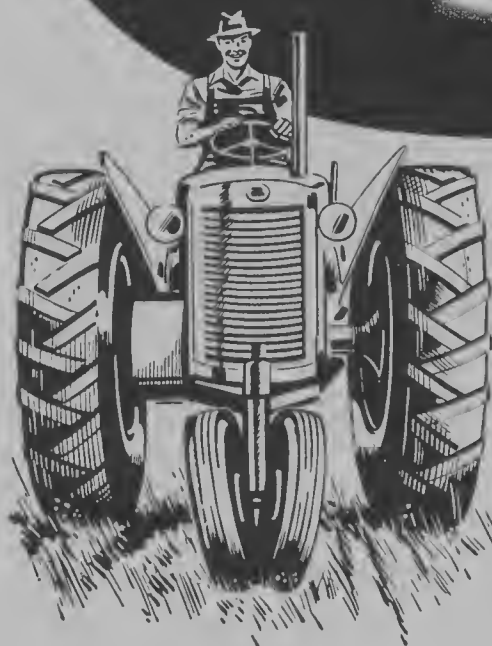
Commenting on the fatality, authorities were quick to point out that pasteurizing milk won't stamp out the fever. You can catch it by merely handling brucellosis-infected cattle. The only real cure is to attack the disease at its source, namely the cattle themselves. Until all beef and dairy herds are brought under disease control regulations—this scourge will remain with us.

Of the 20 disease-controlled areas in B.C. today, ten have been entirely cleaned up after complete blood tests.

Most other regions in the province are either asking for control, or are busy now having control established, including one area in the Lower Fraser Valley. Density of cattle population, and the amount of trading through local community sales, would make regulation enforcement in the whole valley a major operation. Before putting the operation off too long, Valley cattlemen would do well to consider the words of a leading veterinarian: "The brucellosis cow is being freely traded today, but tomorrow she will have no takers." ✓

Milk producers and distributors on Vancouver Island have declared war on the milk surplus problem. Core of their attack is a simple but effective weapon—co-operation. Spearheading their drive is the newly-formed Vancouver Island Milk Foundation, which marks a new high in teamwork be-

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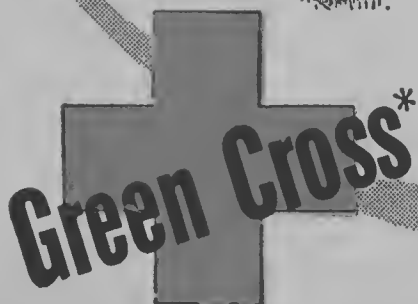
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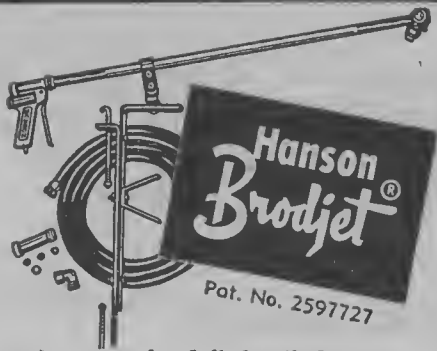
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WINNIPEG CANADA

tween the two dairy groups and the Milk Board, and is the first organization of its kind in British Columbia.

"Producers and distributors have been on opposite sides of the fence too long," as one dairyman put it. "After all, our objectives are the same—to sell milk."

Initial phase of the organization's drive is to stem the flood of unfavorable comment, generally directed at the milk industry, by means of a program of research, publicity and education to "work for, earn and gain the good will of the consuming public for those engaged in the business of producing and distributing milk." Action on the public relations front has been overdue for a long time.

The campaign will include a series of newspaper ads, radio announcements, and fair displays, designed to sell the local market on the idea of milk as a food, so Vancouver Islanders will want to buy it. Later, if funds allow, it is hoped to expand the scope of this advertising, to include lapel buttons, or even milk-maid costumes for cafe waitresses. Costs will be met by a levy of one cent per 100 pounds of milk handled by producers and distributors, plus a contribution from the B.C. Government.

Pleased with the co-operation displayed so far, Milk Board officials are hoping the idea will spread elsewhere—particularly to the embattled Fraser Valley.

**B.C. cows aren't contented** — they keep striving for new production records all the time.

Of a total of 64 class-leading records for the whole of Canada, 28 were made by B.C. Jerseys, and of the seven all-time records established, five were completed in B.C. herds. Within the province, more Jerseys were registered last year than animals of any other dairy breed.

Leading the way in many classes too, were B.C. Ayrshires. "Bluevale Mary Ruth 2nd," owned by Thomas MacBlain and Sons, Langley, headed production in the 365-day mature class with 12,562 pounds of milk and 718 pounds of butterfat, testing at 5.72 per cent. Topping the junior four-year-old class was "Lamond Cora" of C. E. Hubbard and Son, Armstrong, with 13,573 pounds of milk and 613 pounds of butterfat, testing at 4.54 per cent.

"Tranquille Molley FAVORIT," a purebred Holstein from Tranquille Farm, near Kamloops, completed her tenth lactation on Record of Performance test to give her a lifetime total production of 195,347 pounds of milk, 6,305 pounds butterfat, and with it a Gold Seal certificate for long-time production. This record puts Molley amongst the top dozen producers of Canada for all time.

Small wonder there's a surplus milk problem.

New, high-yielding strawberry varieties developed in California over the past ten years, are posing a threat to the Fraser Valley's strawberry industry. Yields as high as 12 to 20 tons per acre are reported, while average Valley per-acre yields have reached a new low of from two to two-and-one-half tons. Higher yields

mean higher production efficiency, with the result that California berries set the price at which the fruit can be sold in this country. Lately it has been low enough to put the price squeeze on local growers.

"Jonah" of the Fraser Valley strawberry industry, according to Keith R. Collver, of the Pacific Co-operative Union, is the British Sovereign variety, a good plant in its day, but now an old retainer that has been kept too long in service. "This strawberry is as outdated as a Model T Ford," Collver maintains, and no match for the "54 Cadillac" varieties now producing in the Sunshine State.

"We have been content to sit back and operate on a system that was outmoded ten years ago," he adds, "and our income from small fruits has been dwindling year by year."

Strawberry production in the Fraser Valley has declined over the past ten years, while unit production cost has jumped. Average Valley yield in 1945 was from three to three-and-one-half tons per acre, as compared with two and two-and-one-half tons today. This represents a per-acre production drop of about 33 per cent; cost of production (not including picking) has gone up at least 20 per cent. Add to this a slump in selling prices of from 30 to 40 per cent, plus a competitor who expects to harvest 125 million pounds of strawberries this year, and you have a sick industry.

Introduction of new varieties and improved cultural practices could be just what the doctor ordered.

Heavy, bulky milk cans are a thing of the past for seven dairymen of Sumas district, in the Lower Fraser Valley. None of the seven are inclined to mourn their passing. In place of the troublesome cans each operator now has a shiny, insulated milk-storage tank. Every other day, a big tank pick-up truck calls at their farms, and the milk is whisked into Vancouver with a minimum of fuss and labor.

As in all tank truck systems, the Sumas driver is a licensed milk tester, able to weigh each loading and sample it for butterfat content. Milk is cooled quickly in the farm storage tanks, and average 35° F. at pick-up time. Transfer to the truck is accomplished by a pint-sized (1 h.p.) electric pump motor, which is carried on the truck, but gets its power by plugging into an outlet at each milkhouse. Capacity of the truck's tank is about 1,400 gallons, and heavy insulation ensures little temperature rise during the two-hour trip to town.

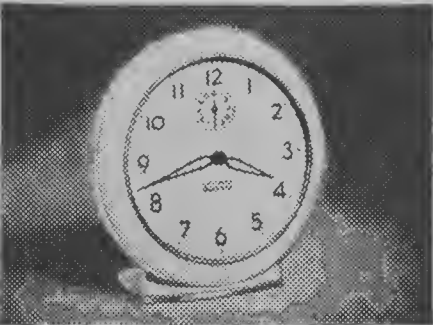
Reduced labor means reduced costs. Producers shipping via bulk pick-up claim a saving of 10 to 15 cents per 100 pounds, plus a better quality product through lowered bacteria counts. Distributors estimate that the every-other-day calls mean a saving of 17 to 20 per cent on hauling costs.

Biggest drawback to the tank system is the high initial investment in equipment. Cost of an insulated tank of about 200 gallons ranges from \$1,700 to \$2,100, depending on the type.

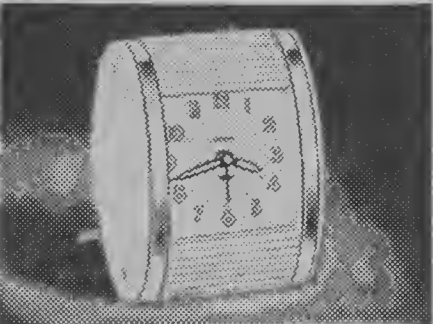
High costs or not, the trend in modern dairying is to bulk milk handling. As one observer puts it, "It's only a matter of time until milk cans are as scarce as horse collars."



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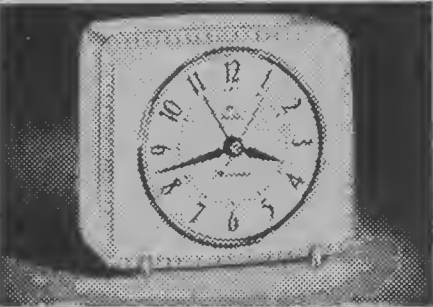
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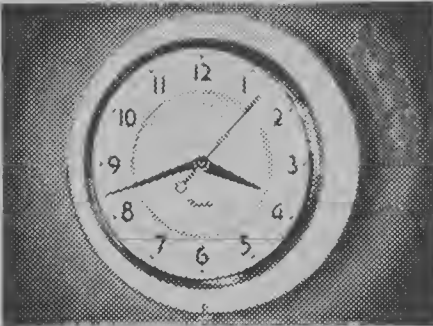
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## Wild Flower Book

A review by F. J. WEIR

THE enthusiastic flower lover is appalled when he starts out to identify an unfamiliar flower by means of a botanical key. The reason for this is, of course, that the key is made up of many technical words not readily understood.

Clarence J. Hylander's Wild Flower Book (Macmillan Co., \$16.50) simplifies this procedure to such an extent that no one should shy away from an attempt to name those common flowers he may see in the woods, swamps, fields or hedge-rows. Success in this respect is also assured by the inclusion of some 500 natural watercolor illustrations.

The text explains, in very simple terms, the basis for identification of a flowering plant, which is a combination of such characteristics as habit of growth, leaf form and arrangement, flower structure and type of inflorescence, nature of the fruit, and the preferred habitat.

Were it not for some orderly system of combining flowers by means of their similar characteristics, it would be humanly impossible to remember very many of them. When grouped into families, genera, and species, it is comparatively easy to remember them as members of a particular group, and also easy to identify previously unknown plants.

Some 62 families of flowering plants are described, and over 500 individual species are described and illustrated. These flowers can be found from the east coast to the Rockies, and from Florida to southern Canada. Many flowers listed, of course, can be found in areas far beyond these regions.

The illustrations are excellent. These reproductions of water colors by Edith Farrington Johnston, as well as being botanically accurate, are works of art. To many, these pictures will be worth more than the price of the book.

Today when there is so much talk of conservation of soils, trees, and other natural resources, it would seem that the Wild Flower Book has been published at a most opportune time. Many people who are not familiar with our wild flowers, are destructive of many of them, with the result that many of the most beautiful ones are becoming rare. This book should go a long way in acquainting flower lovers with many of our wild flowering plants. For many, it will provide a great amount of fun in helping them to recognize and call by name, many of our wild flower friends. V



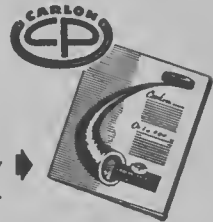
"Not sardines—brook trout!"

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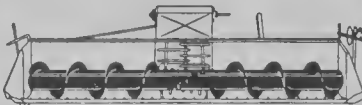
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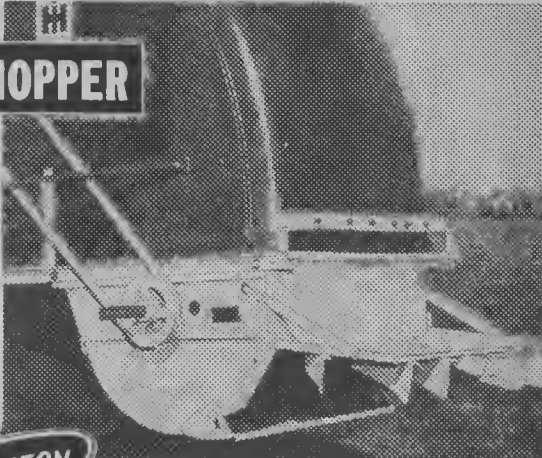
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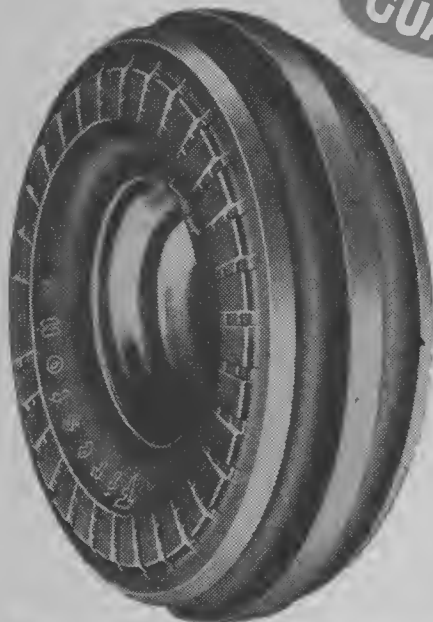
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**NEW! LOW-PRICED "GUIDE-LINE" FRONT WHEEL TIRE**

Improved tread design with three circumferential ribs for easy steering. Rugged shoulder design resists side slipping.

AS LOW AS **\$12.65** SIZE 4.00-15

## Farming Around The World

*Items about farming in France, Western Germany, Denmark, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, India and Turkey*

### Lower Farm Prices In Europe

A SURVEY of economic conditions in Europe in 1953 prepared by the Economic Commission for Europe, found that livestock prices fell in Europe during 1952-53 and were substantially lower in France. A similar trend is continuing into 1954 in some countries. In Western Germany, livestock prices were increasing because of a decrease in the number of pigs. It is reported that increases in meat production are probable in Denmark, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. Egg prices, also, were expected to decline this spring because the decrease in grain prices which has taken place stimulated a rise in egg production.

Of wheat and grain prices, the survey says, "At the beginning of 1954, wheat was imported into Europe at prices only slightly above the minimum fixed in the International Wheat Agreement and the indications are that prices . . . (would have fallen further) . . . but for official support, particularly that of the United States. The result is that the guaranteed prices for domestic grain in a number of countries are now considerably higher than the world market price; guaranteed prices have become producers' supports."

Of agriculture in southern Europe the survey says that it lags "far behind the possibilities offered by modern agronomic science," and calls attention to the fact that vast areas of southern Europe farm land continue to be farmed on a subsistence, one-crop (cereal) basis. Yields are very poor and soils are deteriorating." V

### Rural Uplift In India

THE Government of India has a Community Projects Administration which was launched on a five-year program in October, 1952. During this period it is expected that more than \$44 million will be expended, of which the United States Government will contribute part and the Government of India the major share.

Up to September, 1953, the program had reached 43,350 villages containing 34,520,000 people. By the end of the first five-year period, it is expected to cover 120,000 villages and 74 million people, or about one-fourth of the rural dwellers of India.

During the year ending September, 1953, there were 61,547 acres of land reclaimed, 16,510 acres planted in fruits, 17,423 acres in vegetables, 508 demonstration farms started, 105,494 compost pits dug, 10,000 agricultural implements passed around, in addition to a great many other projects, many of which have been carried out by the peasants themselves, who have contributed labor worth \$7.2 million, and cash, land and materials worth \$7.4 million. These other projects include constructing and repairing wells and tanks, installing pumping sets, 1.2 million cattle inoculated and vaccinated,

325,000 cattle treated for various diseases, 259 breeding and artificial insemination centers established, 66,803 scrub bulls castrated, in addition to public health and educational developments, such as new schools, adult education centers, and community recreation centers established. V

### Farm Boom In Turkey

MORE than three out of four farm families in Turkey now own all the land they till and another one out of five is a part owner. This is proof that the landless peasant is disappearing from Turkey.

Since 1947 about 1.6 million acres of previously unused land had been distributed by the government to 138,671 farm families, many of whom were Turkish refugees from Bulgaria. More than a million acres of land have been distributed to villages for common pasture land.

It is reported that the program has been free of corruption. The program of land distribution has been carried through by the Turks themselves, though strongly endorsed by U.S. technical experts. This year it is expected that a further 600,000 acres of land will be distributed to small farmers or landless people.

Last year's wheat and other cereal production was 58 per cent over the 1948 level, and 73 per cent above 1940. Cotton output was two and one-half times that of 1948; rice production showed an increase of 50 per cent, and sugar beet production more than doubled. These increases are due to several factors, including the bringing of more land under cultivation and the government's liberal price and credit policies as well as favorable growing weather. V

### FAO Studies Farm Surpluses

THE Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) some months ago set up a working party on disposal of agricultural surpluses. This eight-nation committee ended a four-week meeting in Washington recently, after preparing a report which will be considered by the June meeting in Rome of the Committee on Commodity Problems.

The eight-nation group recognized that its principal value was to facilitate the exchange of information and the opportunities for consultation between FAO members. Nevertheless, they agreed on a number of principles to be followed in the disposal of surplus stocks. The first of these was that commodities to be sold on the international market on special terms should not displace normal commercial sales, but should be provided for extra consumption. The second was that, in assessing the desirability of sales of commodities on special terms, the benefits or possible harm to the economies of both exporting and importing countries should be considered. A third was that any country proposing to sell



or buy surplus products on a very large scale, should consult, whenever possible, with other countries who might be interested in the possible effects of such transactions. A fourth principle was that when any two countries arrange special terms for the movement of surpluses, the country benefiting from such transfer should make every effort to prevent re-sale or trans-shipment to third countries.

Nevertheless, the working party said, "The need for special measures must not overshadow the possibilities of disposals through adjustments of price in the market as a whole, and of incentives to producers." It added that "free market prices may be an inadequate instrument for regulating supply and demand, particularly for those commodities which do not respond much to price changes." It was admitted that the need for governmental action depends on the circumstances

of particular situations but "serious hardship to all sections of the economy and social problems could be caused if farm incomes were left solely to the free play of market forces." V

## India to Make Synthetic Rice

PREVIOUS reference has been made to the commercial production in Japan of a synthetic rice composed of wheat flour, potato starch and powdered natural rice.

India is now establishing a small plant to make synthetic rice experimentally from tapioca and peanut flour. The experimental plant will have a daily output of two tons of synthetic rice which will have about two and one-half times the food value of natural grain. V

## Dust Storms Come Again

*Drought and soil erosion may be creeping up on us from the southern states and South America*

ON April 10 and again on April 15, 16, and 17, severe dust storms hit southern Manitoba and were considered to be the worst since 1918. The area in which the most serious drifting occurred was south of the Canadian National Railways line, and west of the Red River. A heavy, driving snowstorm on the 21st stopped the blowing and drifting, since snow, followed by rain, fell where it was most needed.

Meanwhile drought has been scourging six states: Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Colorado, Missouri, and Kansas. In some parts of these states the drought is in its fifth year. The Texas Water Board in March said that the drought was then worse than in 1953, which had been called the worst drought in United States history. Last year talk was about starving cattle and withering crops. Two months ago 12 county judges in Texas told the state governor that the problem was "no longer a matter of feeding cattle, but a problem of feeding people." Eastern Kansas suffered severely and 26 cities were placed on a critical list by the state, because they had less than a 30-day water supply.

In Garden City, Kansas, according to newspaper reports, merchants

shovelled silt three inches deep from the sidewalks. In the Oklahoma Panhandle towns kept street lights burning all day and many schools and stores were closed. In eastern Colorado a road had to be plowed as though it had been buried in snow. In Amarillo it was reported to be like midnight in the daylight hours, with street lights on, and cars barely creeping. Black dust was reported to have filled the air in faraway St. Louis. In some places in parts of Texas south of Lubbock, sand dunes from 30 to 40 feet high were piled up and soil experts thought it might take several years to secure a grass cover.

At Amarillo, Texas, federal and state soil experts reported that 16 million acres of land had been badly damaged by drought and blowing dust. In Texas alone a million acres of range land was heavily damaged and three million acres of crop land eroded so seriously as to require restoration to pasture.

In the hardest hit sections of Texas, only six to ten inches of rain have fallen in any year for the last five, whereas the normal average is between 15 and 20 inches. Federal soil conservationists have reported that the Panhandle area in Texas has with-



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Model A-50, famous Flexdrive Bazooka with motor mounted low. Best all purpose auger. Sectional tube for any practical length.

Economy priced Model B-50, with carrier, adjustable motor mount, cable hoist. 20 and 26 ft. lengths. Best in low priced field.

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Time... Labor... Money Saving



Complete with 48" scoop with removable dirt plate and automatic load leveler. Tested to 2850 pounds. Equalized single cylinder lift... low clearance operation. Easily attached to all popular tractors. All wanted attachments including hydraulic scoop control. Ideal for every day farm work at low cost.

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## A Better Hoist That Costs You Less

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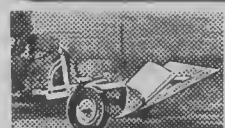
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### "My family insists on this powdered milk."

"So does mine, Ann. The children say it tastes much better than other brands I've tried."

"That's because this is pasteurized whole milk in powder form—the cream is right in it."

"Well, it's certainly easy to tell that Klim isn't powdered skim milk like so many of the others."

"Oh, yes. Why, I never use anything else for my milk supply. And it's so quick and easy to mix—just add it to water and beat, that's all."

"Yes, and those Klim tins are so easy to store I keep several on hand all the time."

"And Borden's Klim stays fresh for weeks after you've opened it. Doesn't have to be kept in the 'fridge, either."

"It's quite economical, too—I get over three quarts of fresh nourishing whole milk from a pound."

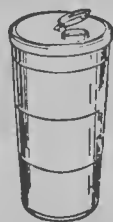
"It's even more economical in the 2½ or 5 pound tins. But no matter what size you buy, Klim is certainly the answer to our daily milk problems."

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stood the drought and dust more successfully than other areas, because the lessons of the Thirties were better remembered. The soil has a better cover of crops, and grassland is better protected.

An official of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, after heading a group of soil experts in a survey of the general situation, reported that if all the ruined fields and ranges in the six-state area were placed side by side they would make a strip of country 50 miles wide and 200 miles long.

One of the most severely affected areas is in southeastern Colorado extending across southwestern Kansas as far as Liberal.

Argentina has likewise suffered from severe droughts. Newspapers in that country have reported that extreme droughts, which previously occurred at intervals of from five to eleven years, now affect a wide area every two years. Deforestation, begun in 1914, has led to what have been described as "dramatic changes" in the semi-arid zone west of the rich Pampas lands. One paper said: "Over hundreds of thousands of hectares (2.47 acres) that were natural grazing lands and fields of wheat and alfalfa, are now sand dunes and desolate, barren plains."

It is reported that in some parts of the Argentine, rainfall has declined radically during the past 25 years. The Argentine Rural Society, in its 1953 report, stated that while the whole agricultural zone of the country was affected, it was especially severe in "the best farming areas of the country, especially the maize belt in the northern part of Buenos Aires Province and southern Santa Fe."

## Well-Trained Cattle

by EDNA McNICOL

OUR good neighbor, who lived down the road, a mile west from us, was a farmer—an Englishman from the Old Country. Jim had worked with cattle all his life, and had learned the right way to raise them. He was very fond and proud of his herd. He had one cow that was 24 years old.

Jim, being a bachelor, made a great pet of this animal. She would come to his shack door when she knew he was eating. He would hand her out a slice of bread, which she seemed to enjoy. Her years of usefulness were over, but she was allowed to live on the farm in comfort until she died.

Jim watched his cattle carefully. He knew just the right kind of weather in which to give them "sulphur mixed with salt." "Always pick out a nice day," he would say, "never let them get wet."

His stock was never dehorned, or branded. He didn't have the heart to hurt them. His cows and big steers had huge horns, sometimes having to tip their heads to get in the stable door. When a piece of pasture got a little bare, Jim would work for days to move the fence to a fresh piece of grass. Never did his cattle get out to bother the neighbors. He knew where they were at all times.

Then came the day he had seven big steers to ship. There was no use in anyone going to help him drive

them, for at the sight of a stranger they would disappear. He asked my husband if he could bring them to our barn, as we have a stock loader, to load them here. "Yes," my husband said, "but how will you ever get them here?"

"Oh," said Jim, "I'll bring them, all right."

To our amazement, on shipping day, we looked out to see Jim coming in the gate. He was not driving the steers, but walking ahead of those big, wild-looking, long-horned fellows, and all the time talking to them, "Come on here now. Hi, there! Come on, here!"

Wonderful training! Never saw any better!

## Less Labor For Liberian Ladies

by JACQUES SODERINI and JOHN ANDERSON

FOR years and years, rice grown in the African free state of Liberia, has been rendered palatable for home consumption, by the hard work of the Liberian womenfolk. Rice is the staple cereal in Liberia and, in the past, every bit of this rice had to be pounded by the wives and daughters of the cultivators in order to remove the hard outer husk and make it fit for human palates. The materials required for this pounding were simply a hollowed-out log, some pieces of wood, and arm and back muscles capable of steady effort over long periods of time.

Recently, however, the women began to rebel. With the general standard of living rising in Liberia, they found this slow and tedious work no longer to their liking, and it was not economically possible for the growers to offer wages sufficiently high to keep them at their pounding. With domestic rice production falling off and the threat of serious consequences, F.A.O. stepped in and, under the Organization's Expanded Technical Assistance Program, Theodore Hogan, an American rice milling expert, was sent out to remedy the situation. The remedy was not difficult to find—it was obviously a clear case for the installation of a machine that would do the work of the reluctant ladies—and now, at Suakoko, 125 miles from the Liberian capital of Monrovia, the first rice mill has gone into operation.

This mill is intended as a pilot project to test the economics of the business. It has a milling capacity of 10,000 pounds a day—equivalent to 1,800 woman-pounding hours, and it will be followed by others, if present expectations are realized. But there is already one small difficulty concerning its use. Under F.A.O. guidance the mill is producing a highly nutritious rice which is not over-milled and has only the tough outer shell removed. This leaves a brownish-colored grain which is not so highly thought of by the Liberians as is the more polished but less nutritious white rice produced by heavier milling. At the moment some Liberians are taking the machine-milled rice home and still insisting that their wives subject it to the hollowed-out-log-chunk-of-wood treatment, to improve its color.



# The Country Boy and Girl



OUR trees are making the world beautiful at this time of year. Their soft green leaves soften the bare skeleton of branches and trunks which were lashed and whipped by winter winds. On the prairies our most common tree is the white poplar and because it is so sturdy it grows anywhere. Its powdery white bark is almost as white as the birch tree but notice that in spring its bark, especially on the smaller branches, is quite green.

"The poplars are showing their silver, that's a sign of rain," the old settlers would say. Have you ever noticed what a very pretty color effect can be seen on the poplars at the beginning of a storm? The leaves, which hang on a twisted stem, turn and show their silvery side and as gusts of wind continue, wave after wave of silver seems to flow over the distant poplar groves.

In poplar trees you will find nests of robins and orioles. When the tree has decayed, woodpeckers, sparrow hawks and chickadees make homes in the hollow trunk. Rabbits and beaver find the juicy bark of a poplar tree their favorite food.

In autumn the leaves of the poplar turn a bright clear yellow. Because the leaves of the poplar continually move, even in the slightest breeze, this tree is sometimes called the Trembling Aspen or the Quaking Aspen.

*Ann Sankey*

## Carnival Kitty

by MARY GRANNAN

A STORM broke, suddenly. The wind lashed out in wild fury, looking for something to toss about, in its wake. It spied a small kitten on a window sill, and picked it up and carried it away. The poor little cat went flying through the air like a wingless bird. When the wind tired, it dropped the little cat. Kitty went tumbling earthward, and fell at the feet of a big elephant.

Kitty cat shook her head, and tried to get her bearings. She was frightened anew, when she saw the great animal standing over her. The elephant sensed this, and said kindly, "Do not be afraid, little cat, I won't hurt you."

"Thank you," said Kitty. "But, please, what are you? I've never seen anything so big before. You're bigger than a horse."

Mrs. Elephant laughed. "Yes," she said, "I'm much bigger than a horse. I'm the biggest living animal in the world today. I'm an elephant."

"An elephant," repeated Kitty. She looked around her. She saw great rows of tents, and large, whirling wheels, and bright banners everywhere. Then she heard music. Gay music! Kitty felt better. "You have a nice place," she said to the elephant. "I've never seen a place like it before. I have never heard such music before."

Mrs. Elephant laughed again. "That music is coming from the merry-go-round," she said. "It closed down during the storm. Kitty, you've landed right in the middle of a carnival."

Kitty was more confused than ever, but the kindly elephant explained what a carnival was. "It's a place where people gather to enjoy themselves. They buy peanuts and popcorn and balloons. They play games, and ride on the merry-go-round. They go into the sideshows to see the animals perform. I perform. I dance and stand on my head and sit on a chair. I even ride a bicycle."

Kitty cat looked at Mrs. Elephant with interest. She was amazed at the cleverness of her new friend. It was

hard to believe that this great creature could ride a bicycle, and she said so.

"Come to the afternoon show, and see for yourself," said Mrs. Elephant modestly. "And now, if I were you, Kitty, I'd go over to the cookhouse. I'm quite sure that the cook will give you something to eat."

"You are very kind to me, Mrs. Elephant," said the little cat. "Which way is the cookhouse, please?"

"Just across the midway," said the elephant, pointing with her trunk.

The midway. It was another new word to Kitty cat, but not wishing to further display her ignorance, she asked no questions and went in the direction shown her. She soon found out for herself, about the midway. The crowds of people, the noise and the music, so bewildered her that she hastily climbed a nearby tree. Once safely out of the way, she looked over the jumble below. She looked at the colored pictures over the tents.

One showed performing seals. Another performing dogs. And there was a picture of Mrs. Elephant. That pleased Kitty cat. A crowd of laughing children were going into a tent where the monkeys were pictured. Kitty cat felt a surge of longing creeping through her. She wished that they were coming to see her. But what could she do that would be worthy of attention? Hunger finally drove Kitty cat down from the tree, and to the cookhouse. The cook, a large, red-faced man, smiled down at her and said, "Hello, Kitty cat, when did you join the carnival?"

Kitty cat hadn't thought of joining the carnival, but it was a nice idea. She would talk it over with Mrs. Elephant. But she had to wait until after the show, because when she returned, Mrs. Elephant was gone. Kitty cat crept in under the tent and found a good place to view the performance. Mrs. Elephant was in the ring, and when she danced on her hind legs, she was truly a marvel to see. Kitty cat clapped her paws. After the show she asked Mrs. Elephant if she might join the carnival.

"If you want to. There's lots of room for you in my van, and I'd like company. We're always on the move. Do you think you'll like moving from place to place?"

Kitty did more than like moving from place to place. She loved it. With every mile, her ambition grew. She wanted to be in the ring. It took all of her courage to speak to Mrs. Elephant about the matter.

Her kind friend shook her great head. "No, Kitty cat," she said. "One has to do something different in a carnival, and what can a kitten do, that's out of the ordinary. Be content to be with the show and forget about being in it."

But Kitty couldn't forget. She spent all her waking hours trying to think of some way to get into the show. One morning, she wandered along the midway, and toward the merry-go-round. The operator of that merry ride, spied Kitty, and laughingly said, "Have a whirl, Kitty cat." He picked her up and tossed her on the back of a galloping green wooden horse. The horse's back, which was highly varnished was slippery, and Kitty could not get a foothold, with her claws. She cried out in fear and then took a flying leap into the crowd. She bumped against a big red balloon that a little girl held loosely, in her hand. The balloon fell to the ground with Kitty on top of it. Her weight kept the balloon on the ground. Kitty stayed on top

of it, rolling it under her. Everyone but the little girl laughed. She ran to retrieve her property from the kitten. Her sudden approach frightened Kitty and out came her claws. The balloon burst, and down she went to the ground. The crowd roared with laughter. An idea was born.

Kitty cat went to the balloon man. "Give you a balloon?" said that gentleman. "I'll do no such thing. These balloons cost money."

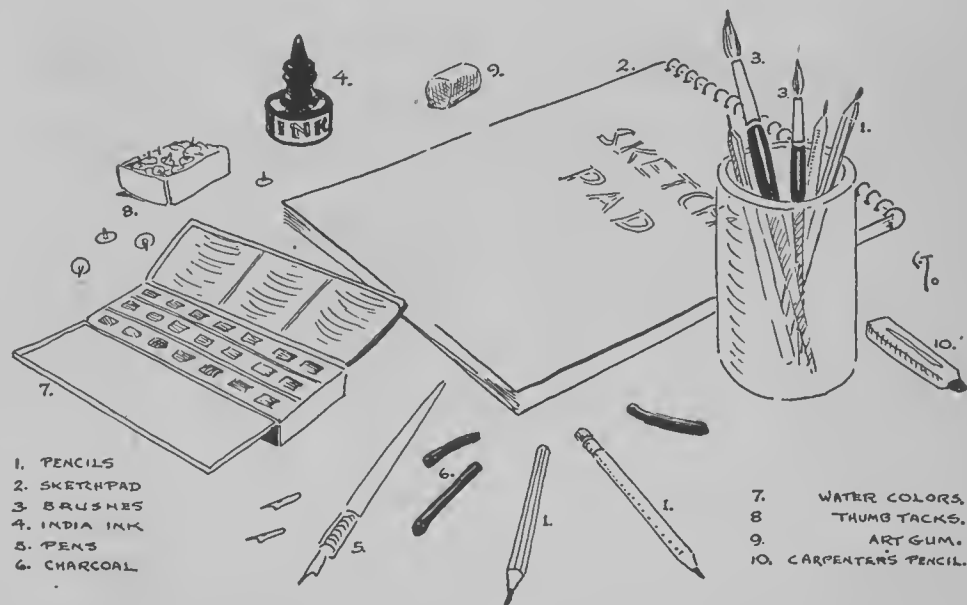
But Kitty coaxed and begged, and promised the balloon man, that if her idea was as good as she thought it, that she would be buying balloons from him every day. He gave her a balloon. All she needed now, was Mrs. Elephant's help. She got that too.

That night, just as Mrs. Elephant was taking her final bow, a little kitten came rolling into the ring on top of a huge red balloon. When she reached Mrs. Elephant, the big animal lifted her tiny friend and the balloon to her back, and then stretched her trunk upward. Kitty cat, carefully rolled her balloon up the wrinkled grey incline. When she reached the end of the trunk, she stood still for a minute, and then sank her claws into the balloon. It burst, and Kitty, standing there high above the audience bowed in a graceful manner.

The crowd went wild. The next day, two words were newly painted under Mrs. Elephant's name, on the van! "Carnival Kitty."

## Sketch Pad Out-of-Doors

No. 27 in series—by CLARENCE TILLENIUS



1. PENCILS
2. SKETCHPAD
3. BRUSHES
4. INDIA INK
5. PENS
6. CHARCOAL

7. WATER COLORS
8. THUMB TACKS
9. ART GUM
10. CARPENTER'S PENCIL

THERE are only two things needed to produce a picture: something that will make a mark and a surface upon which to make a mark. With such simple materials as a lump of charcoal and a shingle, an artist can turn out a creditable drawing. However that would be doing it the hard way. Drawing is difficult at the best. So by all means let us start out with good materials.

Practically all the material you need for sketching (unless sketching with oils) is shown in the accompanying illustration. You might add a drawing board but it is not altogether necessary. A few HB, 2B and 4B pencils, two good sable watercolor brushes—

sizes 4 and 7—pen nibs (Gillott's 303) and a holder, India ink, sketch pad, charcoal and art gum are sufficient equipment to turn out even elaborate black and white drawings.

If you want to work in color as well, get a box of watercolors, thumb tacks, good watercolor paper and a board to stretch it on. And there you are, all set for the job in hand! If you use charcoal, you will need a bottle of fixatif for spraying the finished drawings, to prevent them from smudging.

Do not get a lot of elaborate equipment. Just a pencil and drawing paper will do nicely. Carry them with you and practise, practise, practise.

# THE *Country* GUIDE

with which is incorporated

THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM and HOME  
Serving the farmers of Western Canada Since 1882

VOL. LXXIII WINNIPEG, MAY, 1954 No. 5

## Focus on Conservation

THE five organizations sponsoring the recent Ottawa conference on conservation have done Canada a service, the value of which cannot be properly appraised so soon after the event. To say that the conference was intended to be educational would be doing it less than justice, though in the broadest sense, that was its real purpose. It was not intended that it should evolve solutions of major conservation problems in Canada, or prepare ready-made policies for federal and provincial governments to put into effect. Rather, it was intended to focus public attention on the whole question of conservation, and to emphasize its increasing importance in view of our rapidly growing population and industrialization.

The word conservation customarily means to keep safe, preserve, or protect. In this sense the conservation of natural resources suggests precisely what we do not want to do. We do not want to refrain from using our forests, our minerals, our wildlife, or our soil and water resources. We do want to use them, and because there seems to be no single word in the English language that means precisely what we want it to mean in this connection, we have given an existing word an additional meaning. By long use and much repetition, conservation now means, to use, but use wisely; to avoid waste; to renew promptly what is used up, if possible. Some people are still not happy about this over-working of an honest word, but it is thus that the English language has become so useful—and complicated.

Two suggestions were made during the conference, according to press accounts. One was that there might be formed a Canadian conservation council; and the other that there should be an inventory or survey of our natural resources. A royal commission was suggested as a suitable agency for carrying out this task.

Both suggestions have much to commend them. A conservation council would presumably consist of organizations with direct, or indirect, interests in the conservation of resources, each of which would have representation on the council. Such an organization, if it were really representative and properly organized and financed, could do a much needed piece of work for years to come, by keeping a balanced view of the problem before the public and before governments. It might make a substantial contribution toward the development of sound national and provincial conservation policies.

The royal commission idea, if implemented, would be useful in focusing attention directly on our diminishing resources, and in providing a basic set of resource statistics, as well as an impartial assessment of the situation with respect to our natural resources, both renewable and non-renewable. It is true that management of our natural resources was turned over to the provinces in 1937, and that physically, the federal interest is limited. Nevertheless, the interest of the people of Canada in the natural resources of the country is greater than the interest of any province; and it would seem that the provinces themselves should welcome a survey by the federal authority, which would undoubtedly be of use and value to all. ✓

## Livestock Marketing Boards

FARMER interest has been aroused in Manitoba over the question of livestock marketing boards, as no other question has aroused it since the mid-twenties. What this may mean ultimately to the livestock producers of Manitoba and the other prairie provinces, is by no means clear as yet. It could be that once the hasty proposal of the Manitoba Farmers' Union is put aside by public

opinion, as we believe it will be, the interest already aroused among livestock producers will lead to some really forward step in livestock marketing. On the other hand, the excitement, the antipathies and the prejudices aroused, are just as likely to result in a set-back to real livestock marketing progress.

Democracy develops largely by compromises between opposing opinions. This is because the views held by the majority are in most instances moderate rather than extreme, when there has been sufficient time to develop discussion and understanding. Livestock marketing, moreover, is a highly complicated business. It is also a very important business, not only because of its money value, both before and after processing, but also because of the high degree of perishability, and the very large number of products and by-products involved. Of great significance, also, is the fact that meat accounts for 20 to 25 per cent of the expenditures for food by the average family. This certainly gives the consumer a high dollar interest in livestock marketing.

It seems to us that these considerations are important enough to require a great deal of fact-gathering and digestion, followed by a relatively long period of discussion throughout the province, before any plebiscite would be warranted on the proposed M.F.U. scheme. ✓

## Farm Surpluses

THERE has been much talk of farm surpluses in recent months, and many people seem to have developed a substantial worry complex with regard to the immediate situation. Some of this arises from a continuing surprise that farm prices should have turned downward, following such a long period of rising prices. Some is due, also, to the uncertainty and apprehension that developed when the ready export demand for almost all products during the war and immediate postwar periods, began to fall off.

Associated with this feeling of doubt and uncertainty are two other factors, or conditions, one of them largely psychological and the other physical. During the war period it was essential for the government to exercise fairly rigid control of the Canadian economy, including the control of prices and the cost of living. Along with this control came the making of bulk contracts for the sale of surplus farm products, particularly with Britain. Generally speaking, there were markets for all that could be produced on Canadian farms. Markets presented few problems, and costs and prices were held in balance. This condition continued into the postwar period, when Britain's dollar problem forced her to a gradual withdrawal from her previous dependence on Canadian supplies. Canadian agriculture was able, nevertheless, to make the necessary adjustments in production. Our own growing domestic market, along with continued access to the American market, and a continued strong demand from other countries for some products that we could export, plus a continuing rise in prices, enabled us to live more or less comfortably beside our very robust and well-to-do neighbor.

What many people did not know, or forgot too easily, was that as urgent postwar demand slackened off, buyers would become more discriminating. Competitors who had been forced out of the export market by the war would reappear. Supplies would increase, relative to demand, and prices would begin to fall. Along with this return to more normal conditions, governments of importing countries would gradually discontinue the bulk purchase of foodstuffs, and "the market" would again largely determine prices. The farmer would be on his own to a greater extent than he had been for a decade. When this sequence of happenings occurred, most farmers saw only that farm prices softened and declined, while costs declined more slowly. It has been very disturbing.

The other factor lies in the huge quantities of a dozen or more major farm products, which have accumulated in the hands of the U.S. government. These, in large measure, are the world's real food surpluses. It is popular to charge them against the parity price principle, which has been the basis of U.S. farm price support legislation since 1933. This,

however, is unfair. They can be charged partly to the insistence of the Congress on maintaining the support level at 90 per cent of parity for too long a period. They are partly due, also, to the effects of emergency activities incidental to the outbreak of hostilities in Korea. To these should be added the failure of Washington to more accurately estimate the combined effect on farm production and food surpluses, of the technical and scientific advances which arose out of World War II, and of the waning export demand for farm products. Whatever the causes, the current efforts of President Eisenhower and Secretary Benson to rationalize U.S. farm policy have emphasized the size of the surpluses, and drawn the interest of press and public to the notable failure of the Congress to reconcile political desires with economic facts.

THAT Canada has benefited from the high level of price supports in the U.S. is beyond question. It is also gratifying to know that the Administration at Washington does not contemplate the disposal of these surplus products in any manner which will threaten the foreign trade of other countries. Nevertheless, they are there—several billion dollars' worth of them—and as long as they are there, they will encourage lower prices by the very fact of their abundance.

So far in Canada, our surpluses have not been especially troublesome, with the exception of grain. Temporary, seasonal, surplus production has been guaranteed a market by the government, acting through the Agricultural Prices Support Board. The cost to the taxpayer has been very little since the Act became operative in 1946. Only a few weeks ago, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Gardiner, in a public statement, said that during 1953-54, the Board had carried out support operations with eggs, butter, cheddar cheese, dry skimmed milk, and hogs. As of April 30, the only inventory owned by the Board would be 30 million pounds of butter, of which 25 million pounds are required to guarantee supplies to the consumer at all times. "Our entire surplus of farm products," he said, "will be in cereals, principally wheat."

It would be difficult to envisage a much more satisfactory situation, that would at the same time be realistic. Such surpluses as we have are relatively non-perishable. They are, moreover, money in the bank, or a hedge against the future, to the extent that they represent above-average yields from the last three crops. The Canadian farmer is not guaranteed against surpluses of his products in the future, but at least he starts from scratch this spring, for all products except grain. ✓

## Weather Forecast

IN this issue we begin a 30-day weather forecast, which will cover the period from the fifteenth of the month of issue, until the fifteenth of the following month. It will be prepared by Dr. Irving P. Krick and staff, who are the best known and most successful private weather forecasting and modification agency on the continent.

The temperature and rainfall charts (page 5) are based primarily on studies of long-time temperature and precipitation records. The indicators are not intended to predict precise amounts of rainfall, or precise temperatures for specific locations, on specific dates. They are intended, rather, to be used as guides to the type of weather to be expected during periods of several days each, in the forecast period. In short, they will tell farmers when to hurry and get outside work done, rather than when the rain will begin to fall, or the temperature change sharply.

Whether man will ever be able to exercise much, if any, influence on the weather, is still for the future to demonstrate. Even now, rainmaking is a practical and useful term, rather than a precise and scientific one. No one can make it rain, unless there is moisture in the clouds overhead that is available for raindrop formation when an adequate number of raindrop nuclei are also available. The skill of the rainmaker, or weather modifier, lies in knowing when to be ready for cloud seeding, how to do it most efficiently, and where to do it with the greatest likelihood that rain will fall where it is wanted. ✓